

HISTORY OF
MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 2:
MPCC AS AN AREA-WIDE SYSTEM

1974-2000

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History of Mid-Plains Community College, Volume 2: MPCC as an Area Wide System is the second volume in a planned three part history of the post-secondary educational institutions that evolved into Mid-Plains Community College. Volume 2 covers the college's history from 1974 to 2000 and was written by the same group of writers as Volume 1.

The contents of Volume 2 are divided into three sections: Early Formative Period-Fall 1984 to Spring 1994; Building Blocks of an Area - Fall 1984 to Spring 1994; and Changes and Transitions: Fall - 1994 to Spring 2000. There are stories about the faculty, staff and students, lists of award winners, photos and information about programs and actions that occurred during that span of time.

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HISTORY OF
MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 2:
MPCC AS AN AREA-WIDE SYSTEM

1974-2000

Dedication of This Book: Ken Aten

In the spring of 2006, I assembled the Mid-Plains History Writers Group: Ken Aten, Bill Hasemeyer, Jerda Garey, and Ivan Koch. About two years later, we had produced Volume 1 which documented the early beginnings of the Area from 1926 to 1973-74 tracing the history of the free standing colleges that, in 1974, would become collectively the Mid-Plains Community College Area. At the time when Volume 1 was published, I commented that we were not done; there would be a Volume 2, and no one could die on me as writer and editor: After all...A Deal Is A Deal. Ken kept his end of the deal; he made two final corrections to his Book 2 material just before the pancreatic cancer set upon him.

Thanks for all of it, Ken from Jerda Garey, Ivan Koch, Bill Hasemeyer, and Ford Craig.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND APPRECIATION

Appreciation is extended to the following groups and individuals who provided valuable support as this book was being written:

From Mid-Plains Central Administration:

Dr. Michael Chipps, MPCC Area President, was the person who first saw the need for the history of the MPCC Area to be preserved.

From McCook:

Jerda Garey invited the former division chairs and deans of McCook Community College who lived in McCook to a dinner at her home on May 3, 2010 for an evening of reflection.

Each person in attendance, along with Dr. Bill Hasemeyer, identified the highlights of his or her career at the college. Consensus themes included unity, service, and team work. There was a strong bond among the division chairs, and they felt a real need to help preserve MCC's heritage and to continue traditions. Most of the instructors stated that they enjoyed and appreciated the closeness with students and the opportunity to influence and shape minds. They also stated that even in hard times, they pulled together to make the college better. They wore many hats and felt empowered in the college operation.

Over the years, another important responsibility was to advise students and assist them if they were transferring to another institution. The athletic coaches in attendance felt they were supported, and the memories of their successes would always be special along with memories of the athletes they were privileged to coach. They had fun and enjoyed the friendships of other faculty members. All in all, McCook Community College was a special place to work.

The following people contributed to Volume 2 of this book either by providing information, proofreading, or otherwise verifying the accuracy of the text:

Myrna Bollerup
Stan Garretson
Michele Gill
Glenn and Judi Haney
Sharon Kircher
Darrin Samway
Dorothy Stevens and College Library Staff
Jim Steward
Janet Weber

From North Platte:

At the time the North Platte sections of Volume 2 were nearly completed, copies were distributed to former and current faculty for review.

The following faculty and staff people contributed to Volume 2 of this book either by providing information, proofreading, or otherwise verifying the accuracy of the text and recollections:

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From Nebraska Community College Association:

Melanie Williams

For Sustenance

Carol Aten, Doris Craig, Beth Hasemyer, Jerda Garey, Tom Vickers,
Terry Woods

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Chapter 1

Book 2: A Continuation

Book 2: MPCC as an Area-Wide System is a companion volume to Book 1. In Book 1: Early History and Development of the Colleges and Formation of the Area, the editor and writers traced the origins of the Mid-Plains Community College System. Jerda Garey, assisted by Walt Sehnert, traced the early history of McCook Junior College, an institution that opened its doors to students in 1926. In the fall of 1965, North Platte College opened its doors to students. William Hasemeyer and Ivan Koch chronicled North Platte Community College's beginnings and early years. The year 1966 marked the beginning of the process of opening the Voc-Tech College in North Platte. Ken Aten detailed its beginning and early years.

The 1973 and 1974 years saw the formation of community college areas or districts in Nebraska, and so the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area was created by an act of the legislature to be one of six community college systems in Nebraska. All of the writers mentioned in the previous paragraph collaborated to record the story of MPTCCA's formation. With that addition, Book 1 was finished.

Book 2, then, is a continuation of this important history, tracing the incremental progress of the separate colleges into a practical, functioning community college Area, MPTCCA. Book 2 contains three sections: Early Formative Period - fall semester 1974; spring semester 1984; Building Blocks of an Area - fall semester 1984; spring semester 1994; and Changes and Transitions - fall semester 1994; spring semester 2000. Note: The community college area which is the subject of this book was by law referenced as Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area (MPTCCA) until the law changed in 1987 after which time it became Mid-Plains Community College Area (MPCCA).

In Book 2, educational programs that were dropped and educational programs that were added will be noted as these actions occurred at the campus locations over the different periods of time between 1974 and 2000.

Chapter 2

Introduction: MPTCCA

1974-1984

A Confederation on Its Way to an Area

A loose confederation best describes McCook Community College, North Platte Junior College, and Mid-Plains Voc-Tech at the point of the legislative merger in 1974. To the casual eye, an outside observer's eye, the cluster of institutions making up the new MPTCCA unit appeared nearly autonomous. However, a person paying closer attention might notice one common source of payroll for all three locations and the fact of monthly Board meetings of a brand new Area-wide Board during the 1974-1975 year. It was a loose confederation, but the processes of establishing the foundations of a community Area were underway. This first section of Book 2 provides a glimpse of the students, the Board, the faculty, the administration, and the staff who made happen the first ten years of the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area. A persistent but perceptible motif was the making of a legislatively created community college area, in fact, a reality.

1974-1984 EARLY FORMATIVE PERIOD

MPCCA BOARD OF GOVERNORS 1974-84

1974-1975 Darrell Peters (Chairman), Max Hanson, Lester Harsh, Gene Ryan, Dr. Charles Heider Jr., Gwendolyn McKenzie, Dr. Gordon Sawyers, Wendell Wood, Dr. M.L. Chaloupka, Don McGinley, and Richard Thompson.

1975-1976 No changes.

1976-1977 No changes.

1977-1978 Donald McGinley (Chairman), Max Hanson, Jack Clark, Ken Foster, Keith Wade, Jim Schneider, Jack Donelson, Howard Fergeson, Keith Sheldon, Robert Boyer, Mendel Hirschfeld.

1979-1980 Jack Donelson (Chairman), Max Hanson, Mendel Hirschfeld, Keith Wade, Jim Schneider, Keith Sheldon, Jack Clark, Robert Boyer, Jeff Evans, Kent Miller, Don McGinley.

1980 Jack Donelson (Chairman), Kent Miller, Keith Sheldon, Don McGinley, Robert Boyer, Keith Wade, Mendel Hirschfeld, Jack Clark, Jeff Evans, Max Hanson, Jim Schneider.

1981 Jack Donelson (Chairman), in October 1981, Board of Governors member Mendel Hirschfeld passed away leaving a vacancy on the Board.

1982 Jack Donelson (Chairman), in January 1982 David Pederson was appointed to the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Board of Governors to fill the vacancy created by the death of Mendel Hirschfeld. Other Board members were Keith Sheldon, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Keith Wade, Kent Miller, and Jeff Evans.

1983 MPTCCA Board Members were Jack Donelson (Chairperson), Keith Sheldon, Dave Pederson, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Keith Wade, Kent Miller, and Jeff Evans.

1984 MPTCCA Board Members were Jack Clark (Chairperson), Keith Sheldon, Dave Pederson, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Donelson, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Keith Wade, Kent Miller, and Jeff Evans.

AREA ADMINISTRATION: 1974-1984

Administrators and Staff

1974-1976

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Payroll | Mary (Mora) Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |
| Dean of Administrative Services | Dr. Roy Deeds |

1976-1978

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Payroll | Mary (Mora) Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |
| Dean of Administrative Services | Dr. Roy Deeds replaced by Gary Stover |
| Dir. of Business | Gary Stover |
| Purchasing Agent | A.L. Wiegand |

1978-1980

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Business | Marshall Hutchinson |
| Dir. of Technology | Alice Billesbach |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |

1980-1982

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marshall Hutchinson |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |

1982-1984

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arnesdorf |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Dir. of Adult Basic Education | Deanna Odean |

Payroll

Mary Ginapp

Accounts Payable

Sharon Wiezorek

Facilities

The First Area Office The very earliest Area office, at 100 East 5th Street was located across the street east of the NPC building (old Post Office). At this first location, administrators and staff were Dr. William Hasemeyer, Area President; Pam McMahon, Secretary; Mary Ginapp, Payroll Accountant; and Sharon Wiezorek, Accounts Payable Clerk.

1976 Dorm Discussion The Board discussed and considered the possibility of having dorms in North Platte. The Board heard proposals for a 120 unit dormitory. MPCC administrators Ken Aten and Darrel Hildebrand spoke in support of the proposal as did Coach Steve Aggers. No action was taken by the Board.

1976 Board Sets Tuition The student per semester hour tuition was set at \$10.50 at both McCook and North Platte locations.

1979 Area Office At the June 27 Board meeting it was moved and passed that Dowhower Construction renovate three rooms in the downtown old Post Office Federal Building at a cost of \$23,296; and, when completed, this would become the new home of the MPTCCA Area Office.

1980 Adam Christ The MPTCCA Board, at the July meeting, approved renovating a room on the first floor of the Area Office to house the Adam Christ Indian Artifacts Collection.

At the September 1980 Board meeting Adam Christ presented his Indian Artifacts Collection to the College. Board members at the meeting were Kent Miller, Keith Sheldon, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Robert Boyer, Keith Wade, Mendel Hirschfeld, Jack Clark, Jeff Evans, Max Hanson, and Leonard Farrell.

1980 Energy Grant At the February 1980 Board meeting, Board members were made aware that MPTCCA had received a \$14,000 energy grant for energy efficient controls and improvements.

1981 Sale? No! The Lincoln County Commissioners expressed some interest in securing the downtown Area Office building; however, the General Services Administration would not permit MPTCCA to sell the building.

1984 Old Post Office As of June 17, 1984, the Old Post Office building became MPTCCA property unless the federal government would need it in the case of an emergency.

Administrative Processes and Events

New Area Administrative Structure With the merger which created a single unit of the three separate entities that would become the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area in 1974, many of the changes mandated by the merger were already in effect or in the process of becoming so. One such change, and probably the most significant, was the creation of the administrative structure for the Area which could facilitate conducting the business of the three formerly separate entities. The administrative structure was sufficiently flexible to allow for modification when necessary to meet changing demands.

1975-1976 Area Administrative Organizing in North Platte When Dr. James Ihrig, Dean of Instruction at North Platte College, submitted his resignation in December 1975 so that he could accept a position as president of Cloud County Community College in Kansas, the Board had to deal with the issue of getting a replacement. Dealing with this matter led to a series of other issues.

The first dealt with institutional structure. The question was as follows: should the two institutions in North Platte retain the two-dean structure which had been in place with each campus dean reporting directly to the Area President or should there be only one dean? Area President Hasemeyer was in favor of the one-dean structure while President Aten favored the two-dean structure.

This issue was paramount since the Board had to determine the structure before they could get a job description so that the applicants for the position would know what the position they were applying for would actually involve. At the January Board meeting, the second meeting since receiving Dr. Ihrig's resignation, the Board again could not arrive at a majority vote for either administrative (one or two deans) option. By this time the Board had received 79 applications for the position. By the March meeting, the Board had not yet arrived at a consensus about the situation. One proposal at this meeting was to eliminate the Area President position. This proposal was voted down. Since each vote to change the current two-dean structure to a one-dean structure had failed, by default the two-dean structure remained in effect.

At an April meeting called by the Legislative interim study committee on post-secondary education conducted by Senator Jerome Warner, the conclusion reached urged that the two North Platte institutions remain separate institutions. This conclusion also solidified the two-dean proposal.

During the April 28 regularly scheduled meeting of the Board, Burton Brackney was hired as the new academic dean for North Platte Community College.

A separate but related issue regarding the structure emerged during the regular January meeting of the Board. A problem concerning accounting matters had been discussed during the December meeting in closed session. It was felt that the accounting duties were becoming too large a burden for one person. Dr. Hasemeyer recommended that two new business and management positions be created to resolve the problem: 1) a director of budgeting and accounting and 2) a director of purchasing and management. He also recommended that the two directors be located in the Area office and that they handle all the Area business management functions. At that time Al Wiegand, located on the Voc-Tech campus handled the accounting for Mid-Plains College while Gary Stover handled the accounting for McCook Community College. At the April meeting, it was approved that Gary Stover become Area Business Manager and Al Wiegand become Area Director of Purchasing and Inventory. Both would work out of the Area office.

1978 Mileage Members of the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area Board of Governors received a mileage raise to 20 cents a mile from the previous 15 cents a mile rate.

1978-1979 Board Action A Board policy change passed at the May 24th meeting now required that future employees may have to furnish proof of their physical ability to perform the job.

1980 Area ABE Plan Area President William Hasemeyer presented an Area-wide plan to establish 21 Adult Basic Education centers in the 18-county service area. At the next official Board Meeting, the Board granted clearance to proceed.

1981-1982 Keith Sheldon Honored Keith Sheldon received the Top College Board Member in Nebraska award by the Nebraska Community College Trustees at their general Assembly in Omaha.

1982 July Board Meeting The Area Board made it clear they wanted to maintain the 7% lid. They also allocated \$3,000 of Walsh-Brady funds for matching State Student Incentive Grant Funds. In addition, they requested a written policy on the use of college vehicles (McCook *Daily Gazette* 29 7 1982).

1982 Board Takes Action on Musical Instruments The MPTCCA Board approved an expenditure of \$10,000 to purchase enough musical instruments to establish a small stage band for McDonald-Belton Campus.

1982 Board Action on Tuition The MPTCCA Governing Board unanimously approved a policy on July 28, 1982, that board members, spouses and dependent children be permitted to enroll in any classes offered by the area campuses tuition-free. The policy was rescinded at the September 22 meeting after reviewing a letter from Attorney General Paul Douglas indicating the policy might be illegal. Board member Elizabeth Mitchell requested a legal opinion on the policy of waiving tuition for people over 60 years old.

1982-1983 Area Budget Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area budget was set at \$5.2 million, with a property tax increase of 11 percent. MCC's portion of the budget was \$1,220,494, up 7.4 percent from the preceding year. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 20 7 1982)

A Challenging Time in 1983 William Hasemeyer, MPTCCA Area President, testified at a Legislative hearing, February 3, 1983, to object to two bills that would shift the control of the community colleges to the State.

Unusual and Notable

1976 McCook Artist Gwen McKenzie, former instructor and Area Board member, was selected to present the first one-artist show at the Wrightstone Fine Arts Building in 1976.

Board Member Harry Peck Dies In January 1977 Board member Harry Peck passed away. In April 1977, Bob Boyer filled the vacancy.

1978 At the January Board meeting, Dr. Hasemeyer informed the Board that Blue Cross/Blue Shield announced that beginning September 1, 1978, there would be rate increases. The rate for a single plan would increase from \$25.80 to \$31.30, and the rate increase for a family plan would increase from \$68.80 to \$83.40.

Recognized In November of 1979, Dr. Hasemeyer was recognized with Nebraska Association of Community College Trustee Award and was elected President of the NACCT.

MCCOOK COMMUNITY COLLEGE: 1974-1984

Administration and Faculty 1974-84

Administrative Presidents

Dr. John Harms, Dr. Elmer Kuntz, President, Dr. Harold Deselms

Administrators at the Dean and Director Level

Robert Paschall, Dean of Community Services; Joan Schlimgen, Library Director, replaced by Camilla Chavez; Gil Taylor, Dean of Instruction replaced by Dr. Allen Millar, Dean of Instruction; Dr. Jo Keeler, Assistant Dean of Students; Lamoine Carmichael, Dean of Students; Milimir Drasic, Director - Learning Resource Center; Rachael Phillips, Director of Adult Basic Education; Harriet Mulvany, full-time Director for Adult Education (hired 8/26/76); and Judi Haney - Director of the ILC (Individualized Learning Center).

In 1983, Dr. Glenn Haney replaced Lamoine Carmichael as Dean of Student Services, and Irple Ruby was named Director of the Learning Resource Center.

1974-1984 Full-time Faculty

Full-time faculty for the period were as follows: Sylvia Bare, E.P. Baruth, Sharon Bayne, Dan Bell, Rick Christensen, Robert Christie, Robert Christeck, Ford Craig, Don Dernovich, Bill Dicke, Richard Driml, Ken Ganseboom, Ted Fellers, Walter Francis, Linda Frickey, Jerda Garey, Jim Garretson, Stan Garretson, Jim Hall, Glenn Haney, James Heldt, James Horsford, Judi Haney, Rod Horst, Judy Hokom, Robert Hokom, Elizabeth Jasnoch, Charles Lawson, Steve Long, Lyle Moskal, Maurice Rayer, Patty Reimer, Alan Reynolds, Joe Rust, Richard Shigley, Gerald Springer, Jim Steward, Bruce Watne, Janet Wilken, Roger Wilson, and Harlan Wyrick.

Emeritus Faculty

Emeritus Faculty listed in catalogs for the period were Robert Pullen, Emma Heesch, Flora Dutcher, E.P. Baruth, Anna Bearg, Mary Elliott, Gwen McKenzie, and Harlan Wyrick.

Mid-1970's A system of Division and Division Chairpersons was organized.

1976 Faculty Activity The MCC faculty participated in a slow-pitch softball league.

1976 President Elmer Kuntz was named President of MCC.

1976 Resigned Dr. Gil Taylor resigned as Dean of Instruction.

1976 GED The first GED graduation was held.

1977-1978 Minimum Class Numbers Required minimum number of students for a class became a concern of the music department; and with the resignation of Linda Frickey, the search process began for a full-time instructor. Jim Steward was given responsibility of managing the search process.

1978 Dollars Faculty negotiations resulted in an agreement whereby raises of \$800.00 were allocated for academic year 1977-1978. Then a 6.5 percent increase, based on salaries for 1977-1978, was agreed upon for the 1978-1979 year.

New Faculty For 1979, new faculty were Richard Driml, music, and Walter Francis, criminal justice.

1980 New Faculty New instructors were John O'Connell as physical education instructor and wrestling coach and Steven Long as criminal justice and sociology instructor.

1980 Faculty Changes Dr. Bruce Watne resigned as chemistry and physics instructor, and Jim Horsford resigned as basketball coach. James Garretson was hired as a replacement for Dr. Watne. Joe Rust, drama instructor resigned, and the MPTCCA Board was informed that speech and theater classes would be taught on an "on demand" basis.

1981-1982 New Faculty New staff were Janet Wilken who replaced Sharon Bayne as secretarial science instructor and John Jurgenson as men's head basketball coach, physical education, and business instructor.

1982 President Problems President Elmer Kuntz's contract was terminated by a unanimous vote at the October 28th MPTCCA Board meeting.

1982-1983 New Faculty Members Kent Been was the new agriculture faculty member for 1982, and Lynn Salyer was the new math and computer instructor.

1982 Administration MCC would have a President who would also serve as an Area Vice-President according to a decision made by the MPTCCA Governing Board on May 26. The MCC President was also to be in charge of the Foundation.

1983 Recruiting 1983 saw student recruiting efforts result in an increase from 33 to 71 schools.

1983 New Faculty Roger Shields was named women's volleyball and basketball coach.

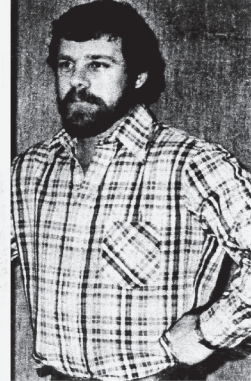
1983 Learning Resource Center Irple Ruby was named the new Director of the Learning Resource Center, a position that had been vacant for the previous year. Lemoine Carmichael, Dean of Students, resigned.

1984 Glenn Haney Dr. Glenn Haney was selected to be the next Dean of Students to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Lamoine Carmichael.

Faculty Honored

1976 Outstanding Instructor *Sylvia Bare was named Outstanding Instructor for 1976-1977 at commencement where Dr. Gene Budig was the speaker.*

1978 Recognition for Don Dernovich *One of his paintings was featured on the cover of the MCC Catalog.*



Cover Boy

MCC's art instructor Don Dernovich poses by his painting which was reproduced on the cover of the 1978-80 MCC catalog.

1979 Faculty Recognition *Dr. Bruce Watne was named "Outstanding Educator of the Year" at the 1979 graduation ceremony held for 96 graduates, the seventh largest class in college history.*

1980 Faculty Recognition *English Instructor Ford Craig was named "Outstanding Educator" at the 1980 graduation ceremony. Don Dernovich was selected to exhibit at the Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition which, at the time, was considered the most prestigious water color exhibition in the U.S.*

1981 Faculty Recognition *Richard Christensen, computer science and math instructor, received the Outstanding Educator of the Year award at MCC graduation ceremonies.*

1982 Faculty Recognition *Don Dernovich was included in a new reference book, American Artists of Renoun, which listed biographies*

of 2,500 working artists. Jim Horsford received the Outstanding Educator Award at the 1982 graduation ceremonies.

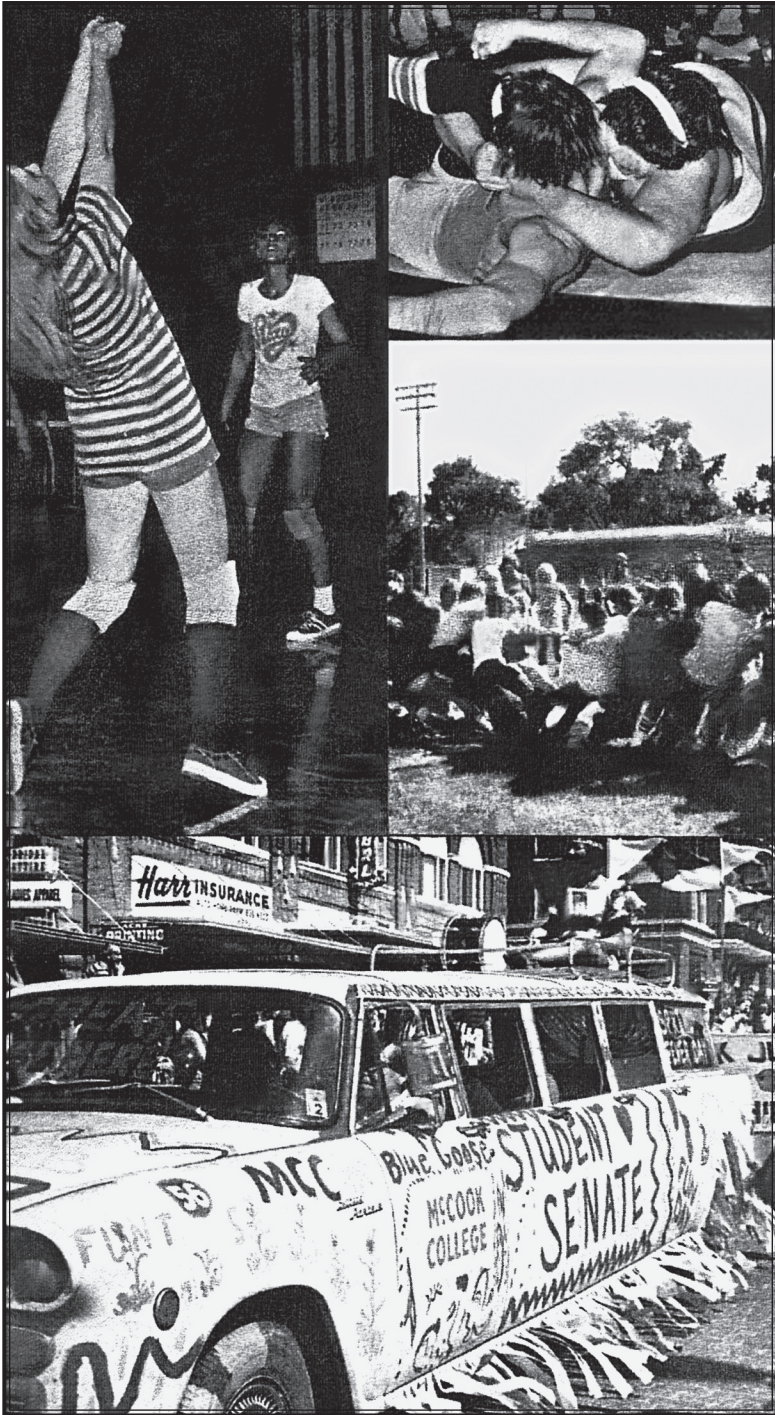
1982-1983 Coaching Recognition Stan Garretson's achievements as volleyball coach included bringing the intramural program to intercollegiate status in 1975. During the eight seasons, his record was 165-139 with his highest achievement in 1980 when the team won a berth in the National JUCO Tournament in Miami, Florida. He was named coach of the year twice in the NCCAC.

1983 Faculty Recognition Ford Craig and Jerda Garey had articles published. A painting by Don Dernovich was selected for purchase by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges.

1983 Notable Faculty San Dee Watson was accepted as a soprano in the American Choral Director's Chorus. Jerda Garey was named BPW Woman of the Year. Hoagy Carmichael was president of the Chamber of Commerce.

1984 Health Occupations Kathy Dernovich, Director of Health Occupations, was one of 72 persons in the U.S. selected to attend a regional workshop on "pre-hospital trauma life support."

Student Affairs and Activities



1974 Honors Student nominees for *Who's Who in American Junior Colleges* were Scott Carpenter, Debbie Becker, Michael Brown, Dick Colvin, Cathy Drake, Curt Farrell, Diane Farrell, Ellen Fielding, Steve Filkin, Greg Harr, Felix Koo, Donna Merklin, Sheila Nordhausen, Darrell Parker, and Bonnie Weyeneth.

1974 Homecoming Homecoming royalty were King Darrel Parker and Queen Cathy Drake. The attendants were Dick Colvin, Cindy Haag, Al Halstead, and Dody Taylor.

1975 Noteworthy Students Notable students during the period were Diane Andrews who served as Dorm Council President in 1975. Kevin Schauer was President of Phi Theta Kappa.

1975 Placement Bureau A placement bureau for students completing one and two year programs was begun in 1975.

1976 Community Concerts MCC purchased passes for all students to attend the Community Concert Series.

1976 Ski Club In 1976, the Ski Club made a trip to Snowy Mountain YMCA Guest Ranch.

1976 Style Show The first style show was held in 1976. "Fashion of the Times" was the theme for the fashion merchandising class's annual fashion show.

1976 Fashion Fair The second Fashion Fair, attended by 350, was sponsored by the Home Economics Department in conjunction with the Red Willow County Extension Service. The high school crafts contest was won by Cindy Stagemeyer of Holbrook who received an MCC scholarship for her efforts.

1976 Art Exhibit The Watercolor U.S.A. exhibit was held from October 2 through the 28th of 1976. The paintings were acquired from the national competition, Watercolor U.S.A. Don Dernovich, art instructor, helped with the financing of the exhibit by donating proceeds collected on chances sold on two of his paintings.

1976 Circle K The 1976 Annual Circle K Easter Egg Hunt provided 1,000 crème filled candy eggs.

1976 Paint-in The first annual Art Paint-in for area high schools was held in 1976. Area students also participated in a high school art display where individual scholarships were awarded to top artists.

1976 Homecoming The 1976 Homecoming King was Keith Bamesberger and Queen was Cindy Flammang. Joanne Bamesberger, Dennis Coleman, Kathy Klooz and Dan Desmond were the attendants.

1976 Gong Show The 1976 Gong Show, sponsored by the criminal justice and music departments, raised \$250. Recipients of a pie in the face were Patty Reimer, Linda Frickey, Jerry Springer, Al Reynolds, and Sylvia Bare.

1976 Dance-In Forty couples completed 30 hours of continuous dancing to raise \$13,376.27 that was donated to fight muscular dystrophy. Dale Bonge and Wendy Mues received third place award, Rose Weskamp and Terry Pinkal received second, and Mara Lee Weskamp and Les Yeager won the first place award which included a trip to Las Vegas, a stereo, and a bicycle.

1976 Recital Soloists for the fall recital were Mary Beth Eisenach, piano and vocal; Laurie Weber and Kim Brown, vocalists; and Bill Carlson and Tim Anderson, piano duet. Harold Sutton, retired businessman, donated new trumpets, coronets, clarinets and trombones worth over \$3,000 to the music department for the use of the community band which was organized in the fall of 1976.

1976 Other Related Activities In 1976, the Ski Club made a trip to Snowy Mountain YMCA Guest Ranch. The first style show was also held in 1976.

1977 Student Senate Steve Haag was elected President of the Student Senate.

1977 Fun Day The MCC Fun Day pitted the freshman against the sophomores in the spring event. Games during the day included an egg toss, leap frog game, wheelbarrow race, life-saver pass, and pie-eating contest. Gary Matson and Marcia Haller won the pie-eating event.

1977 Homecoming Peggy Harr was homecoming queen and Jim Ruskanen was king.

1978 Ag Club The MCC Agriculture Club presented a vaudeville show in 1978. Tickets for the event were \$1 per person.

1978 Christmas Tea For 1978, the annual Home Economics Christmas tea was held on December 13.

1978 Drama Jim Welborn and Diana Zicafoose were the leading characters for the Tumbleweed Troupe's play, *His Name Was Aunt Nellie*. Other cast members were Charles Coleman, Doris Zicafoose, Todd Lebsack, Tammy Hoffman, David DeCent, Barbara Anderson, Marla Kutz, and J. Harold Donaldson.

1977-1978 Circle K Circle K representatives attending the Orlando, Florida, National Conference were Larry Welborn (District Governor), Doug Ohlson, Margie Ayer, Dan O'Dea, Phil Montgomery, Tim Anderson, Ruth Bender, Kris Foster, Peggy Harr, Nancy Uerling, Joan Kircher, and Lori Weber.

1977-1978 Events A vaudeville show was presented by the College Agriculture Club. Tickets for the event were \$1 each. The annual home economics Christmas tea was held December 18.

1977-1978 Phi Beta Lambda Three students won recognition at the State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference: Deb Knosp, Sandy Pelowski, and Kathy Ehlers. Kathy also represented MCC at the national competition in New Orleans.

1978 Student Senate Student Senate members were Linda Grabowski, Rudy Glur, Jim Markel, Sally Klein, Chuck VanDoren, Deb Knosp, Linda Delano, Carol Ringenberg, Margie Ayer, Rob Hildenbrand, Steve Oltman, Jay Garrison, and Victor Bejanoro.

1978 Fashion Show Fourteen McCook retailers provided fashions for the first annual Home Economics Club Fashion show in 1978. General chairperson for the show was Carol Ringenberg. She was assisted by Ann Carmichael, Lori Long, Kim Kitt, Pam Linnemeyer, Julia Leonard, Carolyne Masters, Sally Klein, Linda Grabowski, and Tami Randel. "Super '70's" was the theme of the show.

1978 Dorm Council An eight member Dorm Council was formed, and the council expanded activities to provide an escort service for young trick-or-treaters at Halloween. The Council also secured cable television, established a monthly calendar of events, created a Thanksgiving party, helped with Christmas decorating, and instituted a dorm open-house. Mrs. Anita Kucera was dorm parent in charge of the Council. Council members included Tana Svoboda, Jane Richards, Robyn Grotfeld, Vic Bejarno, Rob Hildenbrand, A.J. Forrest, Cindy Perdue, and Mike Martin.

1978 Band The 1978 Band Day had 16 area bands with 700 students participating in contests and a parade down Norris Avenue.

1979 Homecoming Homecoming royalty were Tammy Hoffman as Queen, Rich Smolczyk as King; Tana Svoboda and Rudy Glur were first attendants; and Lori Long and Brett Thompson were second attendants.

Streaker A notable but unnamed student made an appearance on campus during the mid-1970's. A tipster suggested that students collect on the street between McMillen Hall and the Student Union for some action. A car drove by, and suddenly a very fast and very naked student ran the block and jumped back into the car as it sped off. This happened only a couple of times before the word was out that there could be consequences if the "streaker" made his appearance again.

1978 NBA Former cager, Lee Johnson of Omaha, was selected by the Houston Rockets in the first round of the National Basketball Association draft.

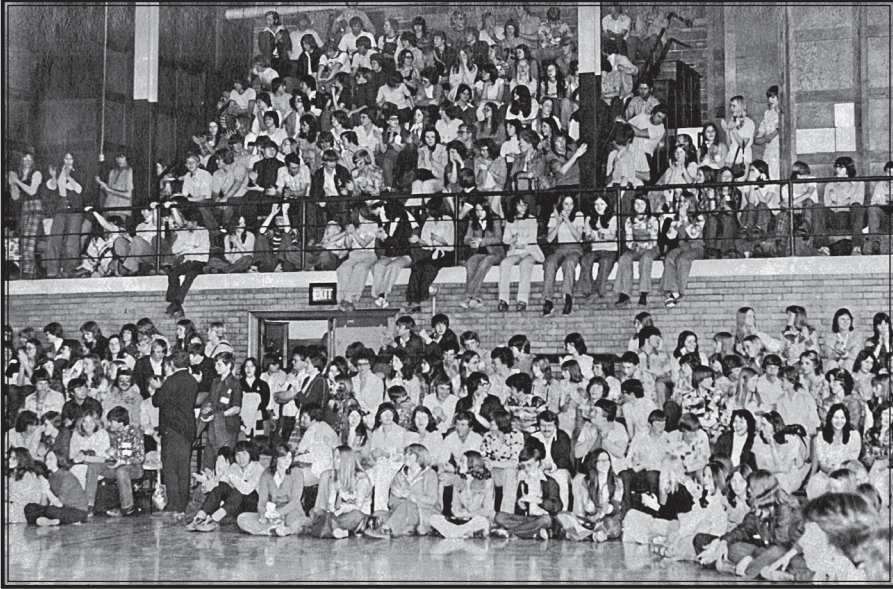
1978-1979 *No, No, Nanette* The McCook Community College actors presented *No, No, Nanette* starring Dana Richard and Bark Bieker. The other members of the cast were Bob Hildenbrand, Leah Gibson, Marcia Stramel, Carol Masters, Joyce O'Dea, Doug Mietzner, Lori Long, Patti Hall, Craig Campbell, Doug Kamery, Mike Grafel, Kevin Berger, Mark Scott, Peg Jacobsen, and Brenda Muller.

1979 Student Events National Phi Theta Kappa attendees included Diane Petsch, Kim Wilson and Debbie Knosp. They were accompanied by Jo Keeler, sponsor.

1979 Dance Marathon Twenty-eight student couples participated in the annual Muscular Dystrophy danceathon.

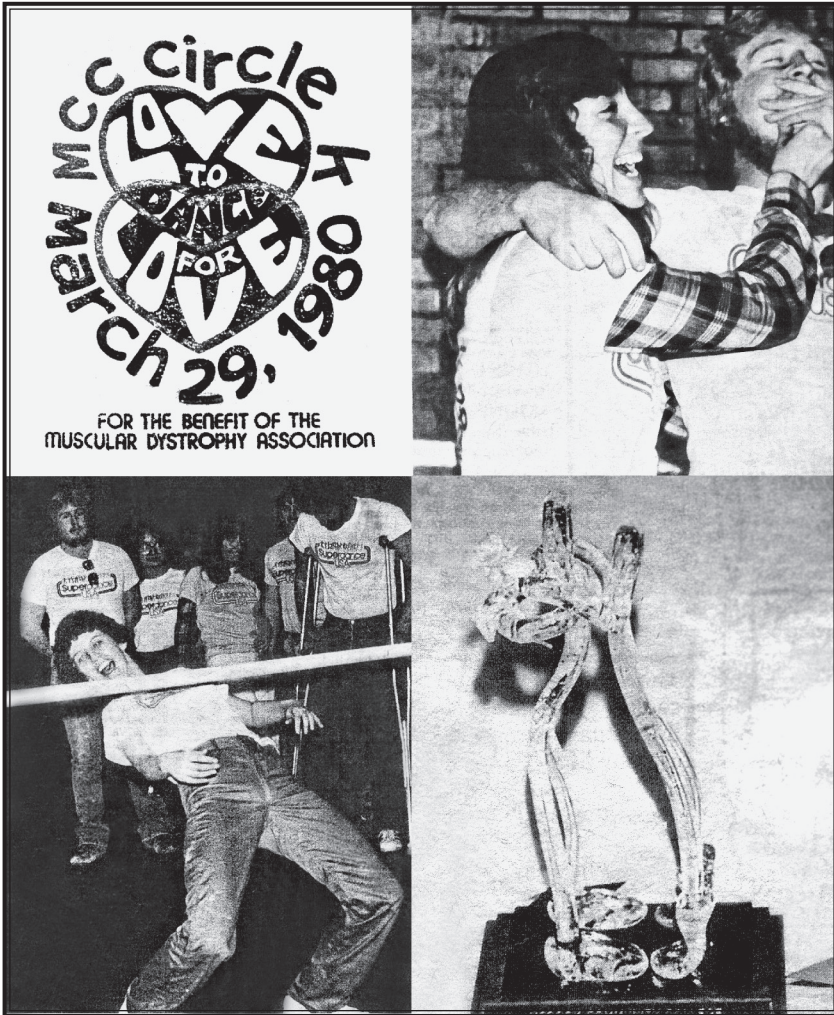
1979 Pep Band In 1979, the MCC Pep Band was reorganized.

1980 Homecoming MCC Homecoming royalty were Steve Garretson, King, and Rose Weskamp, Queen. Attendants were Doug Solko and Jane Richards, and Lana Loschen, and Kevin Howard.



1980 Inter-high Day A one-day-on-campus scholastic contest involving a variety of tests that were administered to service area high school students was begun during this time.

1980 Dance Marathon The annual Muscular Dystrophy Dance Marathon raised \$3,815 at the March event.



1980 PTK Phi Theta Kappa students who attended the national Phi Theta Kappa meeting in Washington D.C. were Kim Wilson, Brian Suiter, Diane Petsch, Rona Dahlgren, and Pam Gillen.

1980 PBL Phi Beta Lambda assisted the McCook Community College Home Economics Club style show on October 20, 1980.

1981-1982 Student Senate Student Senate members were Chad Suiter, Kathy Schleeman, Jeff Davenport, Lori Gartner, Julie Knepper, Denise

Garey, Peggy McNutt, Sam Dunn, Kelley Mangers, Brenda Cole, Susi Harms, Dan Farrell, Kristie Magee, Deb Roethmeyer, Bev Willems, Mark Kunkee, Deb Long, Vickie Frickie, Jeff Burke, Bruce Solko, Dan Woods, Kathy Clark, and LouAnn Stewart.

1981-1982 Fashion Show “Portrait of Time” was the theme of the annual fashion show. Heritage clothes were borrowed from McCook residents and the High Plains Historical Society. Fourteen stores were represented with 35 models. Student coordinators were Mitzi Miller and Peggy Stewart.

1981-1982 Coed Flag Football Coed flag football teams were organized during the fall intramural season.

1981-1982 The Tumbleweed Troupe The Tumbleweed Troupe performed the play, *The Fourposter*, at the Weeth Mini Theater. Members of the six member cast were Diana Mowrey, Randy Cooley, Sue Wesch, Charles Coleman, Paula Sitzman and Roy Holloway.

1981-1982 Honor Choir MCC students selected for Nebraska’s first Honor Choir were Paula Burton, Louis Elmer, Lori Malleck, Pam Rutherford, Mary Story, Paul Reynolds, and Shelly Dodge.

1981 The Last One In 1974, the *Indian* was created; it had been the former *Thunderbird*. Later, the title *Thunderbird* was reinstated, and the final *Thunderbird* was published in the 1980-1981 year and ended with 48 volumes. Students in journalism classes produced the newspaper.

1981 Homecoming Homecoming royalty for 1981 were Lynn Krolikowski, Mike Williamson, James Drake, Shelly Hurt, Marian Kotschwar, and Mick Wissing.

1981-1982 Band Day Band Day was held on October 10, and 19 bands with a total of 948 musicians participated in the event. Chase County won the sweepstakes trophy and was selected to lead the parade for the next year.

1982 Students in Choir Eight students participated in the Nebraska College and University Honor Choir at Kearney on October 29. Students included Lori Malleck, Betty Cinnoczolowski, Doug Soncksen, Wendy Brown, Trish Uerling, Brenda Eckhardt, and Jan Keeler.

1982-1983 Las Vegas Night The MCC student senate held a “Las Vegas Night” to raise money for the Tammy Monie Memorial Scholarship Fund.

1982-1983 Sounds MCC music department presented a Christmas concert, “*Sounds of Music.*” Directors were Dick Driml and San Dee Watson. The jazz band participated in a Jazz Festival in Greeley, Colorado.

1982-1983 Honor Choir Honor Choir members selected for the University Honor Choir were Lori Malleck, Betty Cinnoczolowski, Doug Soncksen, Wendy Brown, Trish Uerling, Brenda Eckhardt, and Jan Keeler.

1982 Circle K Circle K members hosted a Halloween party for community children. Circle K President was Alex Willford.

1982 Student Senate MCC student senate members were Dan Sullivan, Peg Knepper, Nanette Anderjaska, Tammy Vrbas, Linda Stencil, Alex Willford, Clint Gerkin, Brenda Cole, Leslie Eggleston, Shelia Hagan, Brent Coffey, Peggy McNutt, Dan Woods, Mike Bantom, Jeff Burke, Deb Trausch, Lori Steward, Michelle Macfee and Shannon Evans. Faculty advisor was Jim Hall.

1982-1983 Dance Marathon MCC continued the Dance Marathon, Home Economics Fair, Band Day, Art Paint-In, and High School Art Exhibit, and canoe trip on the Niobrara River as major events.

1982-1983 PTK Phi Theta Kappa officers were Lewis Elmer, Peggy McNutt, John Palic, and Jane Gilliam.

1982-1983 Phi Theta Kappa Initiates The PTK initiates were Julie Stoney, Steven Ruppert, Greg Reiners, Troy Potthoff, Lori Steward, Karen Valdez, Christina Mercer, Daniel Smith, Pam Vontz, Cynthia Trail, Roseanne Palic, Patty Kennedy, Connie Krueger, Michaela Lawson, Deanna Dyer, Brenda Eckhardt, Cindy Keim, Betty Ciennoczolowski, Brenda Cole, Nancy Corey, Mary Bergin, Connie Burks, Todd Burrell, Tonna Anderson, David Baker, Mike Bantam, Steve Blume, Monica Carr, Linda Daily, Christina Eckardt, Jane Gilliam, Laura Hubert, Johanna Heying, Sarah Polly, and Dan Woods.

1982-1983 Livestock Team Livestock judging team members were Scott Krutzer, Clint Gerkin, Michelle Macfee, Terri Sexson and Alex Willford. They were coached by Kent Been.

1982 Phi Theta Kappa The student honorary fraternity, Phi Theta Kappa, began the tradition of sponsoring an annual art show. In addition, Phi Theta Kappa tutoring services were offered.

1982 Inter-High Event Inter-High Day was initiated as an academic competitive event for high school students in the MCC service area. Tests in a wide range of subject matters areas were given, and high school students competed for awards, honors, and scholarships.

1982 Homecoming Homecoming royalty were Mike Bantam, Laura Benjamin, Dan Farrell, Deb Trausch, Alex Willford, and Brenda Cole. Other finalists were Rhonda Propp, Chris Liess, Lori Dow, Charlie Roder, Dan Woods and Jeff Burke.

1983 Pep Band The College Pep Band was named “Rowdy Rooters” and the select singers, started in 1983, were named “Pazzaz.” Eighteen bands participated in a band day marked by rain. An alumni band was formed for the MCC homecoming.

1983 Easter Egg Hunt Circle K held an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages one through ten.

1983 Hog Roast The Ag Club held a hog roast and dance.

1983 PBL The McCook Community College Phi Beta Lambda was recognized as one of the top four winners in the nation for its student-operated employment placement program. Placement agency student director Deb Henn attended the National Conference.

1983 PTK Phi Theta Kappa members attended the 1983 Honors Institute in New York City. Attending were Cindy Keim, Lewis Elmer, Chris Eckhardt, Deb Barnett, Peggy McNutt, Rhonda Propp, Laura Benjamin, John Palic, and Dan Smith. Jo Keeler was the sponsor who traveled with the students.

1983 Student Senate Student Senate members were Melanie Jack, Scott Kreutzer, Linda Stencel, Kim Davis, Karen Pick, Kara Golden, Betty Ciemnoczowski, Tammy Vrbas, Peg Knepper Tammy Bauer, Tonna Anderson, Shannon Anderson, Randy Bushkoetter, Kandi Davis, Deb Unger, Pam Garey, Kay Randel, Mary Bergin, Doug Hinton, Starla Schremmer, Nannette Anderjaska. Jim Hall was sponsor.

1983 Student Notable Tonna Anderson was president of Circle K.

1983 Jazz Choir The jazz choir, Pazazz, visited local schools. Members were Darrin Karr, Michela Lawson, Trudy Anderson, Kara Golden, Doug Soncksen, Linda Stencel, Linda Griffin, Ron Rehtus, Robin Marks, Brenda Eckhardt, Joe Anderjaska, Trish Uerling, Betty Ciemnoczowski, and Jerry Reitz.

1983 Band Day In 1983, eighteen area bands participated in Band Day. The Culbertson band won the sweepstakes award.

1983 Livestock Judging Tonna Anderson and Scott Kruetzer won awards at the Panhandle State University livestock judging contest.

1983 Inter-High Scholastic Contest The 1983 Inter-High Scholastic Contest attracted students from 36 communities. The Home Economics Fair held in conjunction with the event also attracted students from 36 communities.

1983 Phi Theta Kappa New Phi Theta Kappa members were Gwen Gilliam, Cathy Upton, Angela Hock, Sheila Wanger, Darrin Karr, David Orell, Jo Jergens, Deb Unger, Danette Hendrix, Steve Brougham, Teresa Hackert, Scott Liesemeyer, Pat Wurm, John Schilz, Barb Blecha, Richard Roberts, Mike Rodel, Don Wilson, Janice Ruppert, Bernadean Strick, Elizabeth Wilcox, Pam Garey, Linda Stencel, Kay Randel, Deann Mercer, Karen Pick, Sarah Wiemers. Linda Griffin, Karen Gillen, Joanie Johnson, Lenore Dow, Carol Tompkins, and Constance Porter.

1983 Homecoming Royalty Homecoming royalty were Mark McConville, Lori Doty, Nanette Anderjaska, John Chiesa, Stacy Towns, and Steve Brougham.

1983 Elderhostel The first Elderhostel was held for the college.

1983 Circle K Circle K hosted the annual Easter Egg hunt in Bolles Canyon.

1984 Band Day Eighteen bands participated in the annual band day with an estimated 2,000 people watching the parade on Norris Avenue. Culbertson High School won the sweepstakes award.

1984 Livestock Judging The College hosted the area FFA livestock judging contest on March 21, 1984, for 90 students from 12 schools.

PTK 1984 Phi Theta Kappa initiates were June Dodge, Sandra Shaneyfelt, Nancy Kautz, Becky Keensportz, Janice Kelsey, Elizabeth Weiss, Carey Corey, Janet Greenlee, Karen Kisker, Doug Sullivan, Joyce Runge, Sharriea Messersmith, Janette Cooper, Jan Koetter, Susan Kircher, Sharon Leibrandt, Deb Hill, Gina Hansen, James Kent, Rex Ruppert, James Martin, Brad Fuqua, Doug Mason, David Hunt, Melanie Macfee, Pat Alexander, Ronda Christensen, Kathy Dernovich, John Hawk, Stacy Heldt, and Karen Tjarks.

1984 Students in the News Pam Garey served as Phi Theta Kappa President. Stacy Towns and Steve Brogham were crowned 1984 Homecoming Queen and King.

1984 Spaghetti Supper and Show The annual spaghetti supper and show presented by the home economics club and the music department was well attended and all tickets were sold prior to the event.



1984 Phi Beta Lambda PBL officers were Jill Haussler, Barb Hampton, LaDona Braman, Michele Farrar, and Carrie Corey. Janet Wilkens sponsored the students.

1984 Scholarships Von Reisen Scholarship winners were Linda Stencel, Steve Ruppert, Steve Brougham, and Nanette Andrejaska.

1984 Student Senate Student Senate members were Xuan Dang, Starla Schremmer, Karen Pick, LaDonna Bramen, Michele Kent, Ron Rehtus, Kandie Davis, Kara Talbert, Melanie Jack, Doug Sullivan, Vince Anderjaska, Pam Garey, Doug Hinton, Karen Kisker, Sharon Liebrandt, Kirk Mason, Scott Pierson, Amy Weimers. Jim Hall sponsored the organization.

1984 Home Economics Club Patty Knepper, Teresa Hackert, Brenda Lines, Karen Kisker, Karen Pick, Mary Lines. Jerda Garey sponsored

the group. The theme for the annual fashion show was “Fashions of the Times.”

1984 MCC Homecoming MCC Homecoming candidates were Deb Hill, Pam Garey, Melanie Jack, Lori Egle, Anne Davis, Karen Pick, Archie Shaw, Bill Blankenau, Loran Acton, Tim Rowland, Larry Newcomb, and Steve Tomlinson.

1984 Other Activities The annual Student Senate Halloween dance provided opportunities for creativity in costume creation. The dorm held a Christmas door decorating contest 1984. MCC students assisted with the community mock disaster drill. Students were “victims” and some experienced their first ambulance ride.



Facilities

1975 Individualized Learning Center An expanded individualized learning center (ILC) was opened August 25, 1975, in the Von Riesen Library basement. Twenty-five individual carrels with tape recorders were available to students. Title VI federal funds of approximately \$11,500 were used to purchase hardware and software for the Center. With the Center open, students could take certain classes at any time during the semester.

1976 Wrightstone Building The Wrightstone Building was completed in the fall of 1976 and was dedicated in 1977 with U.S. Representative Virginia Smith as speaker. The building was made possible through a gift of \$369,000 from the Pearl Wrightstone estate. With the opening of the Wrightstone Building, the fine arts gallery began having quality art exhibits. Don Dernovich, art instructor, was elected to the Academy of Italy and received a gold medal. His painting was reproduced on the cover of the 1978-1980 College Catalog.

1976 Bookstore The Trading Post campus bookstore was relocated to the east side of True Hall.

1977 Sculpture In 1977, the Lynn Lipson Memorial Fund was used to pay all the expenses involved in the erection of a sculpture, The Second Circle.

1978 Mini-theater With the approval of a bid for seats at the March 2, 1978, meeting, work on the mini-theater in the Tipton building progressed. Funding for the theater came from a gift from H.O. Weeth, a Seattle dentist and former student.

1979 Facility Improvements Facility remodeling included Brooks Hall painting, tiling in the kitchen, air conditioning for the student lounge and dormitory supervisor's apartment was remodeled.

1981-1982 Energy Conservation Energy conservation was the reason for reducing the size of windows in McMillen Hall from 21 feet to nine feet. It was expected that installing thermal-pane glass would save about \$600 a year in heating and \$400 per year in cooling costs. The project cost about \$20,000 and Von Reisen Library and Barnett Hall were scheduled for the work in 1982. Brooks Hall also received energy-saving panes and rooms were repainted.

Brooks Hall Brooks Hall was remodeled to provide accessibility for the handicapped.

1980 New Roof The student union roof was repaired for a cost of \$2,000.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1974 Mini-Course In 1974, a mini course in biology covering topics of aging, transplants, the brain, and reproduction was started.

Enders Project One hundred and thirty students were enrolled in the Enders project. Classes were started in fashion merchandising.

1975 ABE Two hundred twenty-two students were enrolled in Adult Basic Education, compared to 107 in 1974. Fifty-two ABE enrollees passed the GED test and earned high school diplomas. Additional attendance centers were opened in McCook at Electric Hose and Rubber Co., TRW, Community Hospital and the city offices. There was a total of 15 sites where adults were able to receive free instruction.

1975-1976 Enrollment Increase There was a 40 percent increase in credit course headcount over the previous all-time high set in 1974. Fall semester enrollment showed 769 registrations compared to 554 for 1974. Credit courses were taught in 15 off-campus communities.

1975 Curricular Changes

- New Vocational offerings were legal/medical secretary, nursing assistant, and food service management.
- A computer terminal linked MCC to the computer at the Mid-Plains Technical Community College in North Platte. Computer instruction was a part of classes in introductory data processing, beginning programming, keypunch, and key-tape machines.
- Current holdings in the library totaled approximately 10,000 items, including books, magazines, and audio-visual materials. Inter-library loan was also made available. The library services became available to all residents of southwest Nebraska.
- The two-year Agri-business Program was developed at the request of area companies. Real estate classes began.

1976 Student Ability Scores Dean of Instruction, Dr. Gil Taylor, voiced his concern about the low ACT scores. The mean score for MCC was 19.3 compared to 17.8 in all community colleges. He stated, "That competency level is only that of a 9th grader." (McCook *Daily Gazette* 3 7 1976) Diagnostic examinations were started in English in 1975 and math in 1976.

1976 Kearney State Kearney State College offered six first semester classes at McCook.

1976 Senior Citizen's Advisory Group In 1976, a senior citizen's advisory council was formed to provide direction to the College on personnel training, direct services to the elderly, staffing, resource development and community relations.

1976 Livestock Judging Livestock judging was a new course taught by Angus Garey. Team members included Larry Webster, Keith Bamesberger, Steve Goltl, Kim Kerckal, Barry Richards, Bill Carlson, Steve Haag, and Randy Richter. Ag Club officers were Keith Bamesberger, Christie Sughroue, and Dennis Coleman.

1976 YCC Roger Wilson was the camp director for the Youth Conservation Corps which constructed stabilization steel cribbing aid in erosion control at Swanson Lake. They also built a picnic shelter and worked at improving facilities at area reservoirs. Thirty corpsmen participated in the program and were housed at MCC. The value placed on the YCC projects accomplished was \$70,000.

1976 College Library Holdings and Services Current holdings of the Von Riesen library for 1976 were approximately 10,000 items including books, magazines, and audio visual materials. Inter-library loan was also available. In addition, library services were made available to all residents of southwest Nebraska, as a public library.

1976 Law Books for the Library During the 1976 academic year, a 2,500 volume law library from the Ernest and Eva Spenser estate was located at the college. In other action the MCC administration was instructed to reduce \$20,000 from their 1976-77 budget as the Area had reached its legal limit of two mills. Subsequent taxes to operate MCC and Mid-Plains would thus fall short of the originally proposed budgets. MCC's budget would be \$857,494 (*McCook Daily Gazette* 21 7 1976).

1976 New Scholarships Dr. Elmer Kuntz, College President, began a scholarship program to raise funds for one-hundred \$100 scholarships.

1977-1978 Planning for Retirement This was a major topic for community services offerings throughout the year. Other popular offerings were genealogy and quilting.

1977-1978 Enders Attendance Center Nearly 100 adults enrolled in courses at the Ender's Attendance Center.

1977 Day Care The McCook Community Day Care Center, located at the former community hospital site, was opened and began the site for the MCC child development students' laboratory experiences. Jerda Garey was a founding member of the day care board.

1977 Prediction Director of the Instructional Resource Center, Milimir Drazic, predicted that in 50 years books as they are known today [would]

not be a part of the libraries in the future, but [would] be replaced by microfiche or ultra fiche cards, and books would be checked out through television (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 10 7 1978).

1978 Graduation Ninety-six students graduated on May 14. Summa cum laude honors were awarded to Marge Ayer, David Hansen, Tammy Hoffman, and Caroline Johnson. Adult GED graduates numbered 81.

1978 New Division Vocational Arts was established as a new division which included agriculture, aviation, home economics, and health occupations. Jerda Garey was appointed division chairperson. Other MCC division chairs were Robert Christie - Social Science, Ted Fellers - Business, Stan Garretson - Math and Science, and Jim Steward - English and Humanities.

1979 Classes/Activities Livestock judging and evaluation was offered at the college and was taught by Dallas Talkington. A new class, Painting on Location, was taught by Don Dernovich.

1979 GED Graduation The 1979 spring graduation for GED was held for 81 graduates, and an address was given by McCook Mayor Don Blank.

1980 Open House A Business Department open house was held in September for the public to meet business faculty and tour MCC facilities.

1980 The Long View By 1980, the College had conducted 53 commencement exercises with 2,870 graduates. At that time, the largest graduating class consisted of 117 students in 1968. The smallest group of graduates was nine in 1946.

1980 Student Numbers Fall enrollment was 630 students and spring was 463.

1981 Town and Country Town and Country Daze attracted 300 to attend 42 workshops and a craft fair. The event was a promotional event by the Agriculture and Home Economics departments in cooperation with the Red Willow County Extension Service and McCook businesses.



1981-1982 MCC Library The MCC Library was advertised to the citizens of McCook as a public library and hours included being open for the public on Sunday afternoon.

1981 Placement Office An MCC Placement Office began operations again in 1981. Deb Henn, placement agency student director, attended the Phi Beta Lambda national convention where MCC was recognized as one of the top four in the nation for its student operated employment placement program. Deb Unger was president of Phi Beta Lambda during this time.

1981-1982 Enrollment Enrollment at McCook had increased for a five-year period as reported by the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post-secondary Education, defying a national trend of decreasing numbers. As stated, an October report showed McCook with a highest enrollment of 646 in 1976 and the highest full-time count of 282 in 1980. The highest number of graduates in the past five years was 94 in 1979. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 27 9 1981 7).

1981-1982 Area Home Economist's Workshop Area home economists held an update workshop September 26. Major presenters were Dee

Clause, President of the Nebraska State Home Economics Association and Debra Heim from the Nebraska Dairy Council.

1980's Ongoing Curriculum Project The project was a Southwest Nebraska delivery system for credit and non-credit classes.

One of Dr. Jo Keeler's challenges when the area of community services was added to her job description in the 1980's was to continue the delivery of classes that had been set up by previous director Robert Paschall, and to expand services to southwest Nebraska. With her knowledge base of education personnel in each community, she was able to identify contact persons who would set up classes and communicate local needs. She also worked with Kearney State College to deliver the upper level credit for business and special education, criminal justice, and provide graduate credits in education administration and special education. Often the lead coordinator was the local school counselor or administrator.

The NPAC program which started out offering education degrees moved toward special education degrees, along with adding a master's in business administration or specialist's degree to meet the needs of students. The NPAC program also allowed teachers to renew their certificates in education. One of the coordination efforts with Kearney was to permit double numbering of some courses, allowing more transfer hours than the original 66 hour cap. Special individualized advising sessions were held to meet with deans from the Kearney campus at McCook at the beginning of semesters.

By the time the reins were passed to the new Dean of Community Services, Dr. Jerda Garey, a system of advisory committees had been structured. The communities of Bartley, Danbury, Benkelman, Stratton, Lebanon, Curtis, Culbertson, Eustis, Maywood, Wauneta, and Palisade each formed its own local advisory committee to identify local needs for both credit and non-credit classes. Meetings were held twice a year with each committee and delivery plans were identified. Local instructors for non-credit courses were contacted, and a semester schedule was built. Non-credit classes could be started at any time, but an effort was made to build classes into a formal schedule.

Dr. Garey continued the advisory committee structure and was able secure a stipend for each advisory committee coordinator. A dinner was held in the fall to invite committee members to campus and to meet campus administrators and instructors. Guide manuals were distributed that outlined potential classes and procedures for setting up classes.

Campus instructional staff were given the first opportunity to teach an off-campus class. In an effort to coordinate selection of adjunct instructional staff for credit classes, instructor resumes and classes had to be approved by the lead campus instructor, division chair, and dean of instruction before the course could be advertised for delivery in a local area. If a course required a laboratory, the setting required approval of the lead instructor. It was not unusual to require students to travel to campus for specialized lab instruction when necessary to meet course requirements. All credit course instructors were evaluated by an administrative team each year.

Through this model, a low cost, locally empowered delivery system was established. It was not unusual to get forty to fifty Full-time Equivalency units for the College each year with the model. With the implementation of the video conferencing and television delivery system, the model changed, travel time for instructional staff was reduced, and more credit classes were delivered from campus with the supervision of the Dean of Instruction and Judi Haney, Director of the Individualized Learning Center.

1981-1982 Curriculum Updates Curriculum updates included revising the chemistry program with sections of general and honors chemistry. Revisions were completed in fashion merchandising, theater, and health occupations courses, with approval for a paramedic training program. Other new courses included Criminal Procedures, Sports Officiating, Introduction to Data Entry, Advanced Programming, Camp Leadership, Trap Shooting, and Aerobics.

1976 NCA McCook Community College began working toward regional accreditation status in 1976. The North Central Accreditation team visited during the 1979 year; and on May 7, 1980, MCC was notified that accreditation was granted at the associate degree level. Projects required

to achieve accreditation included increasing the number of volumes in the library, hiring a dean of instruction, initiating an affirmative action plan, developing occupational programs, and strengthening personal counseling. Dean of Instruction Allen Millar reported the accreditation action to the MPTCCA Board. An open house to celebrate regional accreditation status was later held on October 20, 1980.

1980-1981 New Scholarships and Instructional Support The Walsh-Brady scholarships were established with the bequest received by the college from Mrs. Mary Brady. The Walsh-Brady Computer Instruction Center was also established.

1982-1983 KSC Kearney State College agreed to continue the NPAC program that served 240 students in McCook in the areas of business, education, and criminal justice.

1983 Elderhostel The first Elderhostel at MCC, under the direction of Dr. Jo Keeler, was held June 10-16 covering topics concerning early pioneers, irrigation, and the cattle business.

1983 Ag Program Offerings The agriculture program was retained with conditions to increase student enrollment.

1984 Livestock Judging The Livestock Judging Team competed at the American Royal, West Texas State University, Colorado State University, and Phoenix Livestock show team events.

1983-1984 State Control of the Community College System Again, there was a discussion of state control of the community college system in the 1984 Unicameral. Dr. Hasemeyer, along with other college officials, testified against the measures stating that the centralized control would derail recent progress made at the colleges.

1983 LPN In 1983, the first LPN classes were offered on campus to 11 students. Linda Nielsen was the only faculty member for the program. The first LPN class of nine students graduated from MCC on March 17, 1985.

1983 Advisory Boards In 1983, vocational advisory boards for business, health occupations, agriculture, and home economics met for dinner to share program success and needs.

1983 MCC Partnership McCook Community College, in 1983, was a partner in forming a Small Business Council.

1983 New Program In 1983, a training program for paramedics was established as a result of the work of Kathy Dernovich and community supporters. Non-credit class offerings were strengthened through the use of advisory councils which were established in 22 communities by Jo Keeler, Director of Community Services.

1984 Classes for Area Residents President Harold Deselms was concerned that the College was not serving a high enough percentage of area residents. By July 1, 1984, a satellite site at Wallace had 35 students enrolled in adult classes.

Sports

1974 Basketball Basketball season ended with a loss in the Sub-Regional Championship game 106-79 to Northeastern Junior College of Sterling, Colorado. High scorers were Greg Peters, Bob Tagart, Darrel Parker and Scott Johnson.

1974 Track The track team squad members were Dirk Gosnell, Mike Coder, Ron Flock, Randy Bauer, Dallas Watkins, Mitch Moody, Mike Miller, Lonnie Kitt, and Leon Doty. The coach was Max Broderson. Mr. Broderson resigned at the end of the 1973-74 school year. Track was also ended as a sport at MCC.

1974 Golf MCC golfers were Kent Steckman, Darrel Parker, Greg Harr, Curt Farrell, and Randy Hujing. They were coached by Bob Christie.

1974-1975 Wrestling The wrestling squad had the best record ever in the history of McCook wrestling.

1975 Sports Sports offered in 1975 were women's volleyball and men's golf, basketball, and wrestling. Women's basketball began in 1977.

1975 Notable Coach for Wrestling Jerry Springer was named AAU Coach of the Year. Members were Lisa Uerhling, Rhonda Croutchen, Christie Sughroue, Cindy Fleming, Rita Psota, Gail Guildner, Gail Garretson, Kathy Klooz, Deb Voda, Sue Collicott, Marie Vaughn, Mary Blume, and manager Carol Best. Coach Stan Garretson was quoted after winning games, "We kinda smoked." (*McCook Daily Gazette* 17 10 1975 11).

1975-1976 Basketball Glenn Haney began his third season as head basketball coach. Squad members were Joe Drake, John Kugler, John

Wright, Randy Herman, Lyle Meyer, Bill Steward, Mike Robinson, Fred Baxter, Rich Lloyd, and Kyle Hoehner.

Golf 1976 The MCC golf team opened their season by placing fourth at the Southeast Nebraska College's Invitational. MCC golf team members were Dave Lund, Kevin Slocum, Jim Knotwell, and Chris Harr. Later in the season, the MCC golfers won the Nebraska Community College Conference, the first time since 1973.

1976 Volleyball MCC Volleyball squad players for the season were Kathy Klooz, Gail Garretson, Rita Posota, Gayle Guilder, Christy Sughroue, Cindy Flammang, Colleen Schlager, Suzanne Gilbert, and Lana Currie. With only nine members, it was the smallest team in the conference. Kathy Klooz and Gail Garretson were named to the all-conference team, and Kathy Klooz received All-Regional honors. Stan Garretson was coach.

1976-1977 Wrestlers For this year, MCC wrestlers were Max Tafoya, Dan Desmond, Jim Phillips, Gary Matson, Jim Ruskanen, Buck Wood, Robert Evans, Steve Perea, Terry Novak, Mark Smith, Terry Huddle, Brad Oltman, and Raul Saldivar. Jerry Springer was coach. There were 19 teams in the region.

1976 Cheerleaders Cheerleaders for the year were Merry Casjens, Jody Sartain, Paula Yost, Brenda Lawless, and Wendy Mues.

1977 Japanese Wrestlers Members of the Japanese wrestling team visited McCook on January 12, 1977, in a cultural exchange program. Nine wrestlers and their coach wrestled in the match.

1977-1978 MCC wrestlers won the Region IX title with Jim Morkel, Bret Thompson and Greg Wilcox emerging as regional champions and Rudy Glur and Lydell Gordon finishing second.



WRESTLERS — McCook Community College's wrestling team will go into action Dec. 7-8 at Northeastern of Norfolk. The team includes: (first row, left to right) Al Halstead, Steve Fause, Tom Henson, Jay Martin, Dick Henn, Paul Esterach, Paul Sok, Monty Hazlitt and Dave Gordon. (Second row, left to

right) Jay Wallen, student manager; Dale Magnuson, Kirk Stewart, Nobuyuki Kikuchi, Doug Metzger, Cecil Hinshaw, Rod Alstrom, Doug O'Mara, Larry Owens, Roy Jackson, Mitch Allen, Fiumio Tomino and Coach Jerry Springer. (Gazette photo)

1977-1978 Asian Flu Outbreaks of the Asian Flu caused cancellation of a McCook Community College basketball game with Colby as six players were sidelined by the flu. The wrestling match with Powell, Wyoming, was also cancelled.

1977 Volleyball National Ranking Volleyball players were Lana Currie, Suzanne Gilbert, Deb Brinkman, Nancy Neuman, Lorna Brown, Terri Werkmeister, Janelle Wagnitz, Lisa Denker, Robyn Grotfeld, Teresa Kreuger, Lori Lang, Julie McBee, Ruth Bender, Cindy Howard, Tana Svoboda, and Donna Weber. Volleyball coach Stan Garretson received word that his volleyball team had made the national junior college rankings for the first ever ranking number 10. Robyn Grotfeld and Terry Allen were All-Conference.

1977-1978 Women's Basketball Members of the women's basketball team were Karen Klooz, Deb Brinkman, Janet Wolf, Terri Werkmeister, Lori Long, Lana Loschen, Julia Leonard, Jackie Baumfalk, Carol

Ringenberg, Tana Svoboda, Jane Richards, Robyn Grotfeld, Linda Delano, and Student Manager Linda Grabowski.

1978 Women's Volleyball Women's volleyball team members were Joan Malleck, Elgene Koepke, Lana Loschen, Colleen Fritz, Janet Wolf, Nancy Neuman, Deb Brinkman, Anne Carmichael, Janell Wagnitz, Jackie Baumfalk, Linda Delano, Karen Klooz, Tana Svoboda, Robyn Grotfeld, Lori Long, and Julie McBee. The student manager was Linda Grabowski; student trainer was Tammy Monie. All-Conference volleyball members for the year were Robyn Grotfeld, Deb Brinkman, and Coleen Fritz. The team was coached by Stan Garretson.

1978-1979 Wrestlers Wrestlers won the Region IX title with Jim Morkel, Bret Thompson, and Greg Wilcox emerging as regional champions and Rudy Glur and Lydell Gordon finishing second. In the years after graduation from MCC, three of the team members from that time period were named "Wrestling Coach of the Year" by western Nebraska officials. Dale Bonge was honored in 2004, Rudy Glur in 2009, and Joe Young in 2010. Dave Gordon, a member of the 1978-1979 team, also started his career as a wrestling coach in Nebraska.

1978-1979 Men's BB Men's basketball players were Don Kussmaul, Tony Rainbolt, Steve Garretson, Kevin Howard, Dennis Liess, Tim Ault, Matt Gaunt, Mike Kugler, Frank Winston, Jeff Ross, Jerry Osborne, Mike Martin, and Mike Keller.

1978-1979 Women's BB Women's basketball team members were Karen Klooz, Deb Brinkman, Janet Wolf, Terri Werkmeister, Lori Long, Lana Loschen, Julia Leonard, Jackie Baumfalk, Carol Ringenberg, Tana Svoboda, Jane Richards, Robyn Grotfeld, Linda Delano, and student manager, Linda Grabowski. Coach Lamoine "Hoagy" Carmichael was named "Coach of the Year" in the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference. Robyn Grotfeld and Jane Richards were named to the All-Conference team.

1978 Golf Tournament Rich Smolczyk headed to the national junior college golf tournament for his second year in national competition.

1979 Volleyball Members of the team were Patty Lemon, Kris Thompson, Joan Malleck, Rachelle Hurt, Karen Klooz, Kristi Kircher, Lynn Krolikowski, Deb Jones, Barb McBee, Marian Kotschwar, Tammy Middaugh, Connie Rutherford, and Teresa Thompson. Trainer was Tammie Monie. The team, coached by Stan Garretson, was the NCCAC

Conference Champion. Tammy Middaugh and Marian Kotschwar were named All-Conference players.

1979 Basketball Members of the team were as follows: Front row from left to right: Margaret Upton, Julie Weatherington, Kristi Kircher, Karen Klooz, Sarah Woods, Susan Buxton, and Linda Delano. Back row from left to right: Dorla Decker, Student Manager - Marian Kotchwar, Jane Richards, Tammy Middaugh, Marcia Fitzke, Valery Osborne, Lynn Krolikowski, Suzy Hartman, Coach “Hoagy” Carmichael. Not shown: Lana Loschen.



1980-1981 Men's Basketball Men's basketball players were Steve Garretson, Darrel Reshaw, Mick Wissing, David Scott, James Drake, Mike Keller, Jerry Shin, and Pete Eklund.

1980 Notable Women's Volleyball The 1980 MCC women's volleyball team won a regional playoff victory over Cloud County Community College. This resulted in a trip to the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournament in Miami, Florida. They qualified for the trip by defeating Cloud County Community College (Kansas) in a four-set game. MCC represented a five-state area in the nationals: Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, and Wyoming. In an interview for the McCook College Thunderbird, Coach Stan Garretson said, "This is one of the finest teams McCook has ever had and one of the best

teams to represent this part of the Midwest.” Members of the 1980 team were Louise Koerperich, Lynn Krolikowski, Julie Wetherington, Shelly Hurt, Katrina Minnick, Jeanne Porter, Denise Garey, Deb Jones, Tammy Middaugh, Marian Kotschwar, Barb McBee, and Beverly Willems. The women’s basketball team was runner-up in Region IX with many of the same players from the volleyball team. The teams was Conference Champion. Tammy Middaugh, Marian Kotschwar, and Lynn Krolikowski were name All Conference.



To National Tourney

These McCook Community College women and their coach, Stan Garretson, earned a coveted berth in the national juco volleyball tournament and a trip to Miami, Fla., earlier this month to play against the nation's best teams. Pictured are (left to right) front row, Louise Koerperich, Lynn Krollkowski, Julie Wetherington,

Shelly Hurt, Katrina Minnick and Jeanne Porter; back row, student manager Kris Thompson, Denise Garey, Deb Jones, Tammy Middaugh, Marian Kotschwar, Barb McBee, Beverly Willems and Coach Garretson.

1980 Sports Awards At the annual athletic banquet program, it was noted that three of the five athletic teams at the college had emerged as champions with the women’s basketball team winning the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference. The men’s basketball team was conference co-champion, and the wrestling team won the regional tournament.

1980 Awards Daryl Reshaw was named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference team, and Steve Garretson was named to the second team.

1980-1981 Women's Basketball Women's basketball players were Sarah Wood, Tammy Middaugh, Jane Richards, Marian Kotschwar, Marcia Fitzke, Julie Wetherington, Susie Hartman, Karen Klooz, Kristi Kircher, Lynn Krolkowski, Linda Delano, Val Osborne, Jana Frogge, Denise Garey, Susie Harms, and Cathy Clark. Julie Wetherington set an MCC scoring mark against Northeast Junior College (Colorado) with 33 points, surpassing the former mark of 28 points by Carol Ringenberg. Three players from the champion women's basketball team were selected for the Women's All-Nebraska Community College Conference team. They included Jane Richards, Julie Wetherington and Marian Kotschwar.

1980-1981 Jim Horsford was unanimously named the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. After Horsford later resigned his coaching duties, President Elmer Kuntz announced that Hoagy Carmichael would coach both men's and women's basketball with the assistance of Bob Christie. Bob Christie was also named Athletic Director, and Ted Fellers was named Financial Aid Director.

1980-1981 A Good Sports Year The MCC basketball team, under coach Jim Horsford, was named the Basketball Co-champions of NCCAC. The wrestling team, under coach Jerry Springer, was designated the Wrestling Regional Champion, and the women's basketball team, under coach Hoagy Carmichael was the Basketball Champion of NCCAC.

1981 Men's Basketball Players were Rick Haney, James Drake, Pet Eklund, Darryl Reshaw, Mick Wissing, Al Love, Troy Tickel, John Kilmer, Craig Anderson, Brett Hoffman, and Randy Palu.

1981 Wrestling Team Members of the team were Kent Debus, Greg Kirwin, Gerry Hrasky, Rick Morkel, Todd Tinsley, Victor Bejarano, Tony Cucarola, Boyd Dunham, Lance Mills, Bart Thompson, Dan Veal, Greg Wilcox, and Randy Molinar. John O'Connell was the coach.

1981 Golf Team Members were Jim Morkel, Troy Tickle, Craig Porter, Mike Lowell, Steve Beelit, Bob Placek, Joe Johnston, and John Johnston. Bob Christie was the coach.

1981 Athletic Banquet Honored at the athletic banquet were Craig Porter, the golf team's number one player; James Drake, who led the cagers in assists and steals; Darryl Reshaw, All-State selection; Julie Wetherington, an All-American women's basketball player; and Tammy Middaugh an All-American volleyball selection.

1981 Volleyball Volleyball players were Denise Garey, Julie Quaduor, Jeanne Porter, Bev Willems, Louise Koerperich, Deb Roethmeyer, Sherry Wudke, Kristie Magee, Brenda Cole, Sandy Rutherford, Tammy Alishouse, Deb Trausch, Robin Hitchler, Penny Porter, and Connie Burks. Stan Garretson was the coach and announced that the pep band under the direction of Dick Driml, would provide music at all home games and would make the season opener trip to Mid-Plains. MCC did lose the opening game. Denise Garey was named All-Conference.

1981-1982 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Rick Haney, John Kilmer, Mike Bantam, Troy Reiners, Ken White, Charlie Roder, Terry Carlson, Daniel Woods, Rob Sattler, John Palic, Terry Jackson, Mike Lawless, Kurt Ringenberg, Randy Lundeen, and Jay Shipley. John Jurgensen was the coach.

1981-1982 Wrestling Program The Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area Governing Board voted at the July meeting to eliminate the wrestling program at McCook Community College. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 23 7 1981 14).

1982 Spring Golf Team Golf team members were John Johnston, Tom Stecker, and Mike Lowe. Bob Christie was coach

1982 Coach Resigned Stan Garretson resigned as women's volleyball coach. His banner season was 1980 when the Lady Indians won the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference title, the Region IX tournament, and a berth in the national JUCO tournament after a District IV playoff. Five of his players earned All-Region IX honors: Tammy Middaugh, Marian Kotschwar, Deb Brinkman, Robin Grotfeld, and Kathy Klooz.

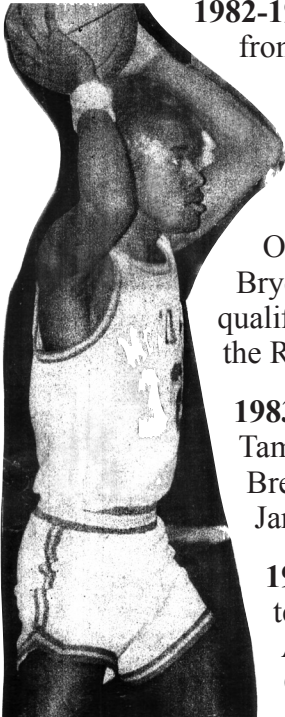
1982 Men's Golf Men's golf team members were John Chiesa, Tom Stecker, Brian Carey, Ed Slocum, Jeff Crandon, Bryce Felker, and Rocky Hampton. They were coached by Bob Christie.

1982 Volleyball Players Volleyball team members were Lori Ridenour, Marsha Hook, Tammy Stewart, Stacy Towns, Sarah Weimers, Deb Rothmeyer, Lori Doty, Julie Fisher, Connie Burks, Tamra Alishouse, Brenda Cole, Marlene Hauver, Cathy Schwan, Mary Bergin, and Michaela Lawson. Stan Garretson was coach.

1982-1983 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members for 1982-1983 were Bernard Harris, Rick Cedar, Tony French, Daniel Woods, Brent Coffey, Terry Butts, Mark McConville, Joe Stoeppelwerth, Bernard

Harris, Craig Thomas, Steve Thomas, Charlie Roder, Mike Bantam, Bill Rolph, and Troy Reiners. They were coached by John Jurgensen. Tony French became the third MCC cager to score 40 points in a game. He was named the 1982-1983 Region IX scoring champion at the conclusion of the season. Mike Robinson scored 43 in 1978, and Lee Johnson hit 41 in 1976. In 1982, Tony French was the high point Region IX basketball scoring leader. Big man, Manuel Cook, 6'6" freshman from Birmingham, Alabama, contributed to the men's successful basketball season.

1982-1983 Women's Basketball MCC women's basketball team members were Tammy Stewart, Stacy Towns, Julie Fisher, Karen Proud, Bev Ruf, Brenda Cole, Mary Bergin, Donna Redler, Julie Kasl, Faye Harms, Lori Doty, Lori McDiffett, and Deb Trausch. Student manager was Dee McCorkle, and coach was Hoagy Carmichael. Lori Doty came within one rebound of tying a rebound record of 25 held by Carol Ringenberg. Deb Traush set a scoring record of 34 points, breaking Julie Wetherington's single-game mark as the Indians beat North Platte January 18, 78-65. Tammy Stewart tied that record later in the season against Trinidad, Colorado. The women finished third in Region IX tournament. Women's basketball leaders for the same year were Lori Doty, Tammy Stewart, Stacy Towns, Janice Ruppert, Julie Kasl, and Deb Hill.



1982-1983 Coach Resigned Hoagy Carmichael resigned from women's basketball coaching duties.

1983 Golf Team The golf team, coached by Bob Christie, earned second place at the Cloud County Community College Invitational golf meet. John Cheisa was the second place medalist.

Other team members were Ed Slocum, Brian Carey, Bryce Felker and Steve Brougham. John Cheisa later qualified for the nationals while the team was third in the Region IX tournament.

1983 Volleyball Volleyball players were Pam Garey, Tammy Stewart, Lori Doty, Anne Davis, Mary Begin, Brenda Glunz, Sarah Weimers, Jeanette Cooper, and Janice Ruppert. Roger Shields coached the team.

1983-1984 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Larry Newcomb, Kraig Axmann, David Major, Mike Offutt, Manuel Cook, Tony French, Michael Hart, Stuart Quador,

Pat Alexander, Dan Unger, Mike Lowe, Doug Hinton, Bill Rolph, Archie Shaw (picture), and Mark McConville. They were coached by John Jurgenson. A highlight of the season was upsetting Nebraska Western 93-90. Tony French was named to the All-Region Team.

1983-1984 Women's Basketball Women's basketball team members were Tammy Stewart, Stacy Towne, Julie Kasl, Janice Ruppert, Lori Doty, Melanie Jack, Deb Hill, Mary Bergin, Anne Davis, and Julie Fischer. Coach was Mary Shields. They ended the season with an 8-5 conference, 8-5 sub-regional and 12-11 overall record.

1984 Volleyball The 1984 volleyball team finished fifth in the Regional tournament. Sharon Leibrandt and Amy Weimers were named to the All- Tournament team. Other team members were Anne Davis, Brenda Gluntz, Janice Ruppert, Pam Garey, Trina Marlin, Rita Ediger, Nancy Seifer, and Lynette Kisler. Roger Shield coached the team.

1984-1985 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Manual Cook, Larry Newcomb, Daniel Palamo, Archie Shaw, David Major, Grover Wise, Austin Bailey, Mitch Muma, Don Leiss, Jeff Johnson, Chris Fetters, Paul Howe, Karious Greer, Jeffrey Johnson, Trevor Rien, and Don Allen. John Jergensen was the head coach. John Jergensen was selected Nebraska College Coach of the year. The team posted a 13-16 record.

1984-1985 Women's Basketball Women's basketball team members were Anne Davis, Rhonda Utesch, Deb Hill, Melanie Jack, Janice Ruppert, Trina Marlin, Sharon Leibrandt, Nancy Seifer, Lisa Brooks, and Carol Einspahr. They were coached by Roger Shields.

Unusual/Notable

1977 Wendell Cheney Retired Judge Wendell Cheney donated a collection of the first 15 MCC catalogs to the college. President Elmer Kuntz stated that the college was making an effort to document MCC history by establishing a collection of items relating to 50 years of post-secondary education in Southwest Nebraska.

1977 Time Capsule A time capsule to be opened in the year 2000 was sealed in the front door of the Wrightstone Building as a part of the 50-year anniversary along with the dedication of the Pearl Wrightstone Fine Arts Building and Heritage Days. The Pearl Wrightstone estate donated \$369,000 to the college. Featured speaker at the dedication was Representative Virginia Smith.

1978 Bequest Mary Brady died on November 24, 1978, 50 years after the first class graduated from MCC. In her estate, Mary Brady left more than one million dollars to McCook Community College to be used “preferably for scholarships” but not athletic scholarships (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 12 16 1978). During the years from 1979 to 1985, a Mary Brady scholarship fund for MCC students was created, and a committee to administer the fund was established.

1978-1979 Walsh-Brady Trust Newly elected McCook Foundation President Don Thompson was given authority to establish a three-person investment committee to advise the McCook Community College Foundation in investing funds from the Brady Walsh Trust.

1979 The Saga of the Golf Course Failed Sale The Country Club offered to sell the golf course to the MCC Foundation. The Foundation board of directors requested at their August 23 meeting that MCC President Kuntz get an appraisal. The MPTCCA Board approved the purchase at their September 23 meeting and instructed that President Kuntz meet with the country club’s attorney Ron Mousel to draw up a sales contract at the approved purchase price of \$350,000. President Kuntz reported that at least two new facilities would be constructed at the site, including a place for the senior citizens and a child development program and an athletic facility. A second new facility would be a physical plant building. The restrictions reported to the board included that the college could not use the property for a golf course, and the Elks Club would have a lease on the land until 1981. The appraised value was \$600,000.

At the September 11 meeting of the McCook College Foundation, members voted to support the Mid-Plains Community College Area Board in its proposal to purchase the country club golf course. At the October 4 meeting, the situation changed, and the Foundation opposed the move. The “no buy” position was led by former MCC faculty member Gwen McKenzie. According to the McCook *Daily Gazette* report, she felt that the college had more immediate needs such as strengthening programs that were recently cut by a seven percent spending lid. Lloyd Benjamin presented the kill motion, stating he was opposed to using Walsh-Brady funds for this purpose. The legal interpretation for the Mid-Plains Community College Area Board indicated the funds could legally be used “for buildings” but avoided the subject of land purchase. Subdividing would be required for a building.

At the October 23 meeting of the MPCCA Board of Governors, after an executive session, tabled the purchase of the McCook Country Club land.

Later in an October 25 *Gazette* page one story, Dr. Larry Burns reported “I told him (Kuntz) repeatedly that there were two stipulations: 1) The land cannot be subdivided, and 2) The land cannot be used for another golf course.” He also added that the price was \$400,000, not \$350,000 as stated by Kuntz. Consequently; no purchase was made.

1980 Tuition Hike Tuition rates increased to \$14 per hour for the first 14 semester credit hours after which a flat rate of \$196 went into effect. The rate changed in 1982 to a flat rate of \$15 per hour for the first 15 hours. The policy concerning high school student enrollment was under discussion at a board meeting of the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area on November 20, 1980. The policy in question stated that high school students must be at least a second-semester junior before being eligible for class enrollment.

1980 Travel Dollars Approved The MPTCCA Board approved expenditure of \$7,357 for the McCook Community College women’s volleyball team to travel to the national tournament in Miami. They won the regional and bi-regional tournaments.

1980 Dean’s Post Eliminated At the April 11, 1980, Board meeting, the decision was made to eliminate the position of Dean of Community Services, a position held by Robert Paschall.

1980 Virginia Smith Congresswoman Virginia Smith visited campus to present a scholarship to MCC.

1981-1982 Marge Lepper Marge Lepper, business office manager at MCC for more that 20 years, announced her retirement.

1981-1982 Benefactor Ralph von Riesen, MCC benefactor, died at age 85.

1970's and 1980's The Blue Goose Airport Limousine The “Blue Goose” was a blue, extended length Checker airport limousine and was a legend at the college in the late 1970's and early 1980's. It hauled students to sporting events, on field trips, and to the Niobrara River for canoeing. Eventually, it became a major entry for the College in community parades. Many instructors experienced the challenges of parking and manipulating the bus through traffic in cities like Dallas, Houston, and Kansas City. Several instructors also had the experience of Blue Goose breakdowns and delays. There is no historical evidence of when the bus was christened the “Blue Goose” - only that the vehicle served its purpose and indeed was an “eye catcher.”



1982 No President? Alumna Mary Ellen Goodenberger wrote a letter to the editor following an announcement that MCC would operate without a [President] replacement and that the position may be abandoned. (*McCook Daily Gazette* 16 12 1982 1) She stated, “Alert citizens, is there a chance that five years down the road McCook Community College will be nothing more than a satellite institution with no control over its own affairs?” (*McCook Daily Gazette*, 18 12 1982 3).

1982-1983 Contribution MCC received a contribution of \$10,000 from the estate of Ralph von Reisen designated for purchase of books and equipment for the library.

1983 McCook College Foundation In 1983, the McCook College Foundation was reactivated. Don Thompson was again named chairperson.

1983 Camilla Orvis Camilla Orvis was recognized for being in charge of food service at Brooks Hall for 24 years.

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE - MCDONALD-BELTON CAMPUS: 1974-1984

(now referenced as the North Platte Community College South Campus)

Administration and Faculty

Administration

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| President (for both Voc-Tech & MB) | Kenneth L. Aten |
| Dean of Administrative Services | A.L. Wiegand (shifted to Area Administration in 1976) |
| Dean of Academic Instruction | James Ihrig (replaced in 1976 by Burton Brackney) |
| Dean of Students | Warren Oldham (replaced in 1979 by Darrel E. Hildebrand as Associate Dean of Student Services) |
| Dean of Community Services | Thomas J. Gorman |
| Director of Recruitment | Darrel Hildebrand (promoted in 1979 to Associate Dean of Students) |
| Dean of Library Resources Center | Keith A. Saathoff |

Faculty

| | |
|---------|---|
| English | Ivan Koch, Jerry Ulrich, Margaret Kreuzberger |
|---------|---|

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Speech and Drama | Nadyne Hengen, Colin Taylor |
| Spanish | Arlys Eddy (program was discontinued in 1981) |
| Art | Bruce Wyman |
| Music | Robert Landberg |
| Mathematics | Virgil Nelson |
| Math/Physics | Larry Smith |
| Biological Science | James Carson, John Gerdes |
| Chemistry | Boyd Gentry |
| Social Sciences | Roger Babcock, Carl Mundis, Stephen Jess (who was replaced by James Nevitt in 1981), J. Mack Gettler (whose position was eliminated in 1981). |
| Criminal Justice | Donald Grubb, Donald Poffenberger (who was replaced by David Roberts in 1977 whose position was then discontinued in 1979). |
| Men's Physical Education | Coach Steve Aggers who was replaced by Dale (Rusty) Parker in 1978 who was in turn replaced by Kevin O'Connor 1985 |
| Women's Physical Education/Coach | Teri Caswell (replaced by Sally Thalken in 1981) |
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Laura Marshall (was replaced by Crystal Barends in 1979 who was replaced by Janice Shulte) and Truman Matthews |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| | (who was replaced by Rosemary Obrigewitch in 1981). Janice Shulte assumed both MLT positions in 1985. |
| Adult Basic Education Director | Anne Miller in 1977, then Julie Boettcher in 1979. |
| Business | Roy Deeds and Ken Sevenker (Ken Sevenker replaced in 1979 by Kathleen McCune who was replaced in 1985 by Janis Ridnour). |
| Secretarial | Eloise Schwab. Marilyn McGahan, (Judith Bodmer whose position was discontinued because federal funding for the secretarial program was discontinued in 1977). |

Harvey Walsh, the librarian since 1967, resigned because of health in 1974 and died of a brain tumor in April 1975. A portrait of Harvey Walsh, painted by Patsy Smith, hangs in the current media center.

Faculty & Administrators Honored

1976 Dave Roberts *Criminal justice instructor Dave Roberts was asked to present a research paper “A Public View of Corrections” to the American Society of Criminology at its annual meeting in Tucson, Arizona.*

1984 Tom Gorman *The Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska selected Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, as the first recipient of the “Outstanding Adult Educator Award” at the annual conference in Kearney, Nebraska.*

Student Affairs and Activities

1974 to 1984 Business Student of the Month Selecting a Business Student of the Month was an on-going activity for the Business Division on the McDonald-Belton Campus. Each month the business faculty selected a Business Student of the Month based on academic achievement and student participation. Each student received a certificate and write up on his or her behalf was submitted to the North Platte *Telegraph* and/or their hometown newspaper. In the period between 1974 and 1984, approximately 90 business and secretarial students received this honor.

1974 Court Jesters The Court Jesters drama group was formed and performed *The Private Ear* and *The Public Eye* on the vocational campus. The cast and crew included Anne Sandefur, Tom Freiberg, Jim Adkins, Paul Cooper, and Rhonda Rankin, Colin Taylor was club sponsor and director.

1975 Court Jesters Dinner-theater and a bicentennial celebration were conducted by McDonald-Belton's Court Jesters student group. The name of the play was *The Contrast*. Director was faculty member Colin Taylor.

1975 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed Chekov's *The Brute* and Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano* on both North Platte campuses, McCook, and in Valentine, as well as on tour to local and area schools. Casts included Tom Tomas, Cindy Lewis, Donna Reichenberg, Grant Sawyer, Tom Freiberg, Kathy Lauer, Karlene Hawley, Scott Helzer, Irene Hernandez, and Ken Lewis. Colin Taylor directed.

1975 McDonald-Belton Choir The Choir and KNOP-TV presented a 30 minute special musical program called *Rejoice*. Bob Landberg was the director. There was a special Santa muppet presentation by Ken Lewis and Rich Hoaglund.

1975 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed Feydeau's comedy, *A Flea in Her Ear*, directed by Colin Taylor. Cast and crew included Robert Hunn, Anne Sandefur, Rhonda Rankin, Cary Wertz, Jim Adkins, Paul Cooper, Tom Prevo, Tom Freiberg, Paul Grow, Ken Lewis, and Kathy Lauer.

Representing the College Court Jesters at the February 5th McDonald-Belton dedication were Rhonda Rankin, Ann Sandefur, Cary Werts, and Colin Taylor.

1975 to 1988 Bob Landberg and the McDonald-Belton College Singers

Bob Landberg was employed by MPTCCA in 1975 as the Director of Music for the McDonald-Belton Campus location. Over the years he served in that position, his singers group always went on a spring tour. Each group was sizeable, and there is not room to list all singers' names for each year. However, the following material does indicate the area schools where the singers did perform over the years. Mr. Bob Landberg did conduct the choir although the choir did not perform in all schools every year: Broken Bow, Sutherland, Hershey, Wallace, Madrid-Wheatland, Brady, Maxwell, Callaway, North Platte St. Patricks, McPherson County, Stapleton, Wauneta, and Paxton. There was also a home concert each year after the theater at McDonald-Belton was completed.

1976 Lunch Break Theater The Lunch Break Theater at McDonald-Belton, under the direction of Colin Taylor, presented three one-acts. Joe Winkler and Rhonda Rankin co-starred in *I'm Herbert*. *The Brute* by Chekov starred Lisa Altig, Tom Tomas, and Mike Carson. *The Zoo Story* featured instructors Don Grubb and Keith Saathoff.

1976 Lunch Break Theater *The Suitor* a Roman comedy written by Derryl Barr was produced by Colin Taylor. Students Pam Bellew, Jeannine Berniklau, Doug Hoffman, Meredith Coddington, Dave Roberts, Tom Prevo, Gloria Luna, and Barb Goforth were actors in the play.

1976 Spring Court Jesters The Court Jesters performed a dramatic reading of Ray Bradbury's "The Sound of Thunder" at the Northern Colorado Speech Convention. Cast included Doug Hoffman, Rod Stone, Deb Moldanado, Cindy Lewis, Tom Freiberg, Kathy Lauer, and Kathy Hawley. Colin Taylor directed.

1976 Phi Theta Kappa President The PTK President for 1976 was Sharon Fattig.

1976 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed the first play written by a European immigrant to North America, Royal Tyler's *The Contrast*, as a dinner theatre at the Holiday Inn. The cast included Tom Tomas, Jeanine Berniklau, Margy Tomas, Joe Winkler, Kathy Lauer, Karlene Hawley, Irene Hernandez, Cary Wertz, Tom Prevo, Ken Lewis, Gloria Luna, Pam Bellew, and Marie Adams. Period costumes and uniforms were created by Susan Votaw.

1977 Phi Theta Kappa President The PTK President for 1977 was Elaine Mulvaney.

1977 Dance Marathon for Muscular Dystrophy KODY Radio, Voc-Tech VICA Club, Circle K, and Student Senate all helped to conduct a Muscular Dystrophy Dance event. Circle K President Steve Mullholland helped coordinate the event.

1977 Rodeo Club Event The McDonald-Belton women's team Rodeo Club group placed fourth in the 10th annual intercollegiate rodeo Friday and Saturday at the University of Nebraska. Jerri Krajewski was the top performer for the North Platte team. She placed second in breakaway roping.

1977 Court Jesters Event The McDonald-Belton Court Jesters group presented *J.B.* in the Fireside Lounge. Those acting in the play were Meredith Coddington, Anne Miller, Allen Swift, Margaret Kreuzberger, and Doug Hoffman. Colin Taylor was the director.

1977 Fall Court Jesters *The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch*, presented by the College Court Jesters, directed by Colin Taylor, starred Jim Valdevia, Chuck Wendt, Dick Deutschman, Althea Prins, Deb Suiter, John Mecomber, Doug Hoffman, Renwick Conrad, Vernene Meyer, Rod Stone, Gene Mayber, Doug Curtis, Tom Tomas, Pete Kosmiski, Deb Moldanado, Shelly Skula, Doug Fleecs, Sandra Anderson, Marie Skufka, Bob Davis, Marvin Thurston, Glenda Tollison, Jim Adkins, Anne Sandefur, Sondra Backstrom, and Cindy Lewis.

1978 Phi Theta Kappa Fifteen Mid-Plains Community College students were inducted into the national junior college honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, on April 8, 1978, during a ceremony following a banquet at the Circle C South. Inductees were Jean Bickett, Suzanne Brackney, Debbie Choquette, Jane DeWall, Jean Hansen, Tomascene Knapp. Susan Morton, Elaine Mulvaney, Jane Painter, Marie Skufca, Rose Spracher, and Glenda Tollison of North Platte; Jamie Wright of Culbertson; Judy Crosby of Sutherland; and Geraldine Krajewski of Venango.

1978 McDonald-Belton Choir and College Singers The Choir and College Singers presented a program entitled "Dimension in Sound 1978." Vocal soloists were Rich Broshears, Diane Landberg, Cathy Nelson, and James Valdivia. Diana Freeman was a dance soloist and Jeanine Berniklau presented a tenor sax solo. Director of the two groups was Bob Landberg with Jo Ann Greenwood as accompanist.

1978 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters presented a premier performance of Derryl Barr's new play, "The Suitors." Cast included Meridith Coddington, Rod Stone, Doug Hoffman, Doug Fleece, Pete

Wiley, Tom Prevo, Nile Gifford, Tom Tomas, Pam Bellew, Rod Stone, and Jeanine Berniklau, and Deb Moldanado,

1978 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed “Wiley and the Hairy Man.” Cast members included Peg Sykes, Donald Bade, Jr., Dr. James Nevitt, Director Colin Taylor, Sandy Anderson, and Joe Eschelman. The play was on the road to numerous area schools.

1979 PTK Officers were also installed. David Sharp of Omaha was installed as President, Jeanine Berniklau of Maxwell as Vice-President, Glenda Tollison of North Platte as Secretary, and Milette Kelliher of North Platte as Treasurer.

1979 Phi Theta Kappa Mid-Plains Alpha Theta Beta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, national honor society for community junior colleges, held its annual induction ceremony and banquet on Saturday March 24, 1979, at the North Platte Holiday Inn. Twenty-nine new members were formally inducted. Honorary membership was conferred on Nellie Snyder Yost, North Platte author and Buffalo Bill historian. The sixty persons in attendance - including family and friends of the initiates and college staff members - gained a new appreciation for poetry and literature through the shared experience and writings of Nebraska poet Don Welch of Kearney State College. Margaret Kreuzberger, Roger Babcock and Dr. James Nevitt were faculty advisors to the MPCC Phi Theta Kappa fraternity. (Editor’s Note: PTK historic data for remainder of the 1974- 1984 period of time were unavailable.).

1979 Business Field Day The secretarial students at Mid-Plains Community College participated in a “Secretarial Field Day” Tuesday, April 24, 1979. The students were divided into two groups who toured the following North Platte businesses: Town and Country Realty; Century 21 Realty, North Platte State Bank, First National bank and Trust Company, Hansen, Fuenning, Raetz, Erd, Roggow and Keck Accountants; Janey, Raemakers, Ludwig Accountants; Nebraska Machinery; and McCarthy, McCarthy and Vyhnalek Attorneys.

At a luncheon at the Holiday Inn hosted by the First Security Bank of Sutherland, the group was welcomed by Jordan Larson from the Business Advisory Committee. An NSA Scholarship, Scribes Membership Certificates and Business Student of the Month Certificates were presented. Cindy Kaliff of Nebraska Job Service was the guest speaker.

The tour and luncheon provided a valuable learning experience for the students and was an excellent contact with area businesses.

1979 MLT Testing All 11 Mid-Plains MLT graduates taking the Board of Registry Exams passed the national test. The highest possible score was 205. The school mean was 152.36 and the national mean was 143.29. Mid-Plains high and low scores were 182 and 134, with 119 as the minimum score.

1979 Inter-high Day Students from 29 Area high schools participated in the spring 1979 Inter-high day event in North Platte. A total of 669 students participated in a two division event; the competition was part academic and part vocational. Students from the North Platte Public Schools and Wauneta Public School were the winners in the contest.

1979 Spring Notable Play The Court Jester's play *Joe Egg* directed by Colin Taylor at McDonald-Belton received special recognition in an editorial in the North Platte *Telegraph* on May 6, 1979. Local campus students in the play were Andy Smith, Colleen Hawley, Gerda D'Angelo, Barbara Pafford, Sandy Andersen, Joe Eshleman, and Andy Smith. Dr. Jim Nevitt also was in the play.

1979 Count Dracula The Court Jesters produced the play *Count Dracula* in the fall of 1979. McDonald-Belton actors were Joe Eshleman, Susan Leighton-Floyd, Dr. Jim Nevitt, Doug Boyd, Coleen Hawley, Deb Johnson, Mike Condon, and Andy Mueller. The play was directed by Colin Taylor and Sandy Andersen.

1980 Court Jester's Play A satirical play *Taylored* was produced by the Court Jesters in the spring of 1980. Colin Taylor directed the play and the following McDonald-Belton students were actors Peggy Sykes, Doug Boyd, Barb Wisman, Kim Witski, Peter Wiley, and Robin Thiem. A clown band was a part of the production and involved Mike Nelson, Sue Haynes, and Pam Hasemeyer.

1980 Spring Court Jesters The *Underpants* was performed at the Fireside Lounge and the North Platte Country Club. Cast members included Peggy Sykes, Pete Wiley, Barbara Wisman, Robin Thiem, Tom Hunn, and Douglas Boyd.

1980 Inter-High Event The contest attracted 657 Area students who were tested in 24 technical and academic instructional competencies. A number of Area high schools were very competitive, with Ogallala and Mullen at the top.

1980 Fall Court Jesters In the Fireside Lounge the Court Jester's play *Fortitude* was part of the college Spring Open House. The cast included

Carl Mundis, Craig Harlemert, Doug Waltemuth, and Susan Grachek. Colin Taylor directed.

1981 Inter-High Day Contest The two North Platte campus locations hosted the 9th annual Inter-High Day Contest on March 9th, 1981. The contest consisted of 22 different tests in both academic and vocational studies. More than 680 students from 34 Nebraska High Schools participated in the event.

1981 Spring Court Jesters *The Zoo Story* by Edward Albee was directed by Colin Taylor. Cast members were Don Grubb and Keith Saathoff.

1981 Fall Court Jesters *Paint Your Wagon* stage manager/choreographer Deb Brownfield; cast: Craig Harlamert, Dick Hall, Canda Kandt, Robin Thiem, Lori Lynn Mecomber, Doug Waltemuth, Rich Hoaglund, Ralph Sheppard, Clarence Wolfe, Dan Studley, Daniel Clang, Suzanne Grachek, Lora Hutchins, John Grabbenstein, Dan O'Conner, Rich Brochears, Traci Shahan, Teresa Wadsworth, Sharon Belders, Cherri Buzzell, Nels Clang, Dawn Mackley, Vernite Roethmeyer, Jolene Smith, Mindy Taylor, and Richard Thorpe. Technical crew included Kelly Smith, Marty Williams, Bill Richman, Dave Birth, Elizabeth Stevens, Alice Wilcox, Marge Roethmeyer, and Christy McAdam. The musical was co-directed by Bob Landberg and Colin Taylor.

1982 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed *Here We Are*, directed by Colin Taylor. Cast included Terry Olguin, Doug Waltemuth, Diane Landberg, Susan Grachek, Teresa Wadsworth, Cherri Buzzell, and Robin Thiem. Lighting was done by Bill Richman.

1982 MLT Testing Five Mid-Plains MLT students took the national Board of Registry exams. Those taking the exam had a high average score; however, for the first time, one student did not pass.

1982 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed *Was He Anyone?* by N.F. Simpson. Cast members included Terry Olguin, Bob Goodman Williams, Ed Monjares, Steve Foster, Diana Turnipseed, Pat Courley, Dan O'Conner, Lori Mecomber, Susan Votaw, and Denise Poffard.

1982 McDonald-Belton Choir The College Choir presented a Dimension in Sound concert. The College Singers and College Trio were also featured along with the Knight Wind, a four-member band. Bob Landberg was the director.

1983 Spring Court Jesters *Fiddler on the Roof* was directed by Colin Taylor, Choreographer was June Robinson, and accompanist Cheryl King. Stage crew: Jeff Rummery, Bill Hanson, Kelly Smith, Mindy Taylor, and lighting by Bill Richman. Cast members were Larry Lee Hill, John Howard, Pete Wiley, Leonard Pierson, Steve Foster, Janelle Schenk, Terry Olguin, Tom Hunn, John Mecomber, Gary Weishaar, Elizebeth Buzzell, Amelia Cook, Heather Graff, Dan Hinton, Richard Thorpe, Susie Vermeer, with Nels Clang as the fiddler.

1983 Choir Tour Roster Bob Landberg, Conductor. Front Row, left to right: Chris Henry, Janelle Schenck, Deb Landberg Olson, Sandy Thompson, Lisa Taylor, Lori Jehoreck, Christi Siffring, Teresa Estrada. Middle Row, Diana Turnipseed, Cheryl Karg, Teresa Skraback, Suzanne Grachek, Jody Olson, Kim Williams, Lori Mecomber, Karen Lauer, Patty Potthoff, Cheryl Buzzell. Top Row: Jerry Dailey, Scott Synovek, Mark Voris, John Todd Collins, Everette Fox, John H. Mecomber, Rich Saignman, and Jim Murphy.



1983 Inter-High Day Contest Both McDonald-Belton and the Voc-Tech hosted the spring Inter-High Day Contest. Nearly 800 students participated. North Platte, Valentine, and Ogallala received first, second, and third places respectively in the scholastic tests. North Platte, Ogallala, and McCook received first, second, and third in the technical tests.

1983 PTK Talent Contest McDonald-Belton's honor fraternity, Phi Theta Kappa, conducted a second annual Talent Night on April 9. The event was created to provide an evening of fun and family entertainment.

1983 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed Lillian Helman's *The Children's Hour*. Cast members included Elizabeth Buzzell, Traci Shahan, Amelia Cook, John Mecomber, Jeff Rummery, Mindi Taylor, and Tammy Gourley.

1984 Spring Musical The musical *Guys and Dolls* was presented in the spring of 1984. Elizabeth McCammon played the role of the soul-saver. Her gambler friend was played by Dick Hall. Deb Olson played the saloon singer and Preston Havens played her fiancée. Colin Taylor and Bob Landberg directed and produced the musical.

Facilities

Facilities - McDonald-Belton The new academic campus was made possible by a bequest in the will of Janet McDonald on June 13, 1973, of an amount in excess of \$1.2 million in honor of her family. This fund was augmented by approximately \$350,000 from the building fund of North Platte Community College. The College already owned a building site of 100 acres at a cost of \$140,000 located just north of the University of Nebraska West Central Research and Education Center.

The architectural firm of Hinde and Laurinat designed a single, one-story building of 89,326 square feet. The entire outer shell was completed along with 57,593 square feet of interior including much of the theater, the gymnasium, locker rooms, rest rooms, entrances and hallways, administrative offices and four classrooms in the first phase of the building for the contract of \$1,605,450. The general contractor was the James E. Simon Company, the mechanical contractor was North Platte Plumbing and Heating, and the electrical contractor was Snell Electrical Services. The finished part of the building was in use by December 1974 and the building was dedicated February 23, 1975.

The North Platte Junior College Board members who organized plans for the new building were Donald Pederson, Robert Brown, Dallas Darland, Joseph Dye, Marlyn Engdahl, and Jack McDermand. The Mid-Plains Community College Area Governing Board members at the time of completion were Darrel Peters, President, Arnold; Donald McGinley, Vice President; Ogallala; Max Hanson, Elsie, Secretary-Treasurer; Howard Hansen, Broken Bow; Mendel Hirschfeld, North Platte; Gwendolyn

McKenzie, McCook; Kent Miller, North Platte; Herbert Morton, North Platte; Harry Peck, North Platte; Keith Sheldon, McCook; Richard Thompson, North Platte; Dr. William Hasemeyer, Area President; and Kenneth L. Aten, College President.

Funding for the second phase needed to complete the McDonald-Belton Campus (the new academic campus) became the main priority in the capital construction budget for Mid-Plains Community College. Sufficient funding in the amount of approximately \$650,000 made it possible to begin construction in August of 1976. The second phase resulted in completion of all classroom, laboratories, faculty offices, music and art areas, and media center.

The second phase was substantially finished by June of 1977 making all areas of the building completely usable for the 1977-1978 college year with the exception of the theater. The following contractors and the amounts of their awarded bids were:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Architectural firm | Hinde, Laurinat, and Nelson | \$48,492 |
| General Contractor | Wayne Dowhower Construction | \$366,490 |
| Electrical Contractor | Snell Electric Services, Inc. | \$93,995 |
| Mechanical Contractor | Lundeen's, Inc. | \$110,000 |

The total of all contracts for the second phase of construction was \$618,977.

The third and final phase of the building construction was finishing of the theater. In August 1980, the MPTCCA Board approved Phase III in the amount of \$98,672.62 for the completion of the theater to be carried out by General Constructors. In September 1980, the MPTCCA Board approved additional dollars for the installation of theater seating (Stephenson School Supply - \$26,723.00) and stage curtains (Metropolitan Stage Equipment - \$6,285). Additional parking and landscaping were added as funding allowed over this 10 year period.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1970's Developmental Classes It became increasingly apparent by 1970 to those teaching at the new college that, despite the proclamations of self-proclaimed authorities that this was the best educated generation ever, many incoming students did not have adequate communication or mathematical skills to succeed in college. In an attempt to minimize these deficiencies, the College began some remedial efforts. Faculty members

Virgil Nelson and Larry Smith began administering a diagnostic test in basic math for all incoming students at the beginning of each semester to determine more quickly those who probably could not do college level work successfully and those who probably could. For those who probably could not manage basic skills, the instructors developed a basic math class that could bring students to a performance level so they could succeed if they successfully completed the class.

In English, David Robinson sought to address the deficiencies by developing a Study Skills class. This class was to aid students in taking notes, to do outlining, to take exams more successfully and in general to improve study habits. Mr. Robinson worked on this class, changing it as needed to try to make it better fit students' needs. When he left in 1974 to begin work on a doctoral program, it was apparent that the improvements provided by this program were still not sufficient because of the limitations of grammar, spelling and the inability to write coherent complete sentences. These limitations were often too basic to allow much improvement in the study skills. Margaret Kreuzberger replaced David Robinson and continued the Study Skills classes; but as time passed, it became clearer that the classes were not as effective as had been hoped. The course evolved into English 099, which was then Developmental English. What follows is the course description as devised by Margaret Kreuzberger.

This auto-tutorial is designed for those students who, for any reason, have not yet built the foundation of language skills needed to handle college-level work. English 099 is a prerequisite for the English 101, for those who demonstrate a lack of readiness for the demands of freshman English; it can be taken as an elective by any student wishing a good review of grammar, spelling, and reading.

A regular class meeting time was set for the course with an instructor available in case of problems or questions, but the course was self-paced so the student could proceed at his own pace. There were unit tests on each segment so the instructor could monitor the results. When the student finished the course, he or she could proceed on to English 101.

1974 and Beyond - Criminal Justice A number of programs were begun before and continued to flourish after the merger. One such program was Criminal Justice which apparently had its beginning in 1969. Bill Green, a retired FBI agent living in the area, began the process of getting the program approved and started. He was also the only instructor, on a part-

time basis, until 1974. Two factors provided the impetus for the growth of the program. One factor was the availability of federal LEEF funding administered by the Nebraska Crime Commission. Another factor was the realization by communities that having better educated law enforcement personnel would be desirable and began making at least an Associate of Arts Degree a requirement for employment. Law enforcement people could be and were hired on a provisional basis as long as they completed an Associate of Arts Degree within a specified period of time (five years) after beginning employment.

When Bill Green left in 1974, he was replaced by Don Grubb who became a full-time instructor. The work load increased to the point that a second instructor (Don Poffenberger) was added in 1975-1976. He stayed only one year and was replaced by Dave Roberts who was on the faculty for two years (1976-1978). The program has continued since with one full-time instructor.

1976 New Corrections Class “Community-Based Correction” was offered in the fall of 1976. According to Patricia Reimer, the class was on parole, probation, and halfway houses. The course was sponsored by Kearney State College.

1977 Off-Campus Offerings at Ogallala Six academic transfer credit classes were offered at Ogallala in the fall of 1977. Classes were beginning algebra, college algebra, accounting, computer programming, English composition, and art/painting fundamentals.

1977 Beginnings of NPAC In the fall of 1977, Paul Gaer, Kearney State College faculty member in the Education Department, began laying the foundations for what would eventually become the Nebraska Plains Alliance of Colleges. The NPAC agreement involved Kearney State College and both McCook and North Platte campus locations of MPTCCA. As the NPAC agreement became a reality in the early 1980's, it permitted many local area MPCCA students to complete first an associate's degree at the community college and then a bachelor's degree from Kearney State College. Because of the NPAC program, the local students did not have to leave the community of North Platte or of McCook for the bachelor's degree. When the program was fully operational, a student could earn a bachelor's degree in business administration, special education, and elementary education.

1977 Class in Fiction Writing Dr. Stubblefield, from the University of Nebraska, conducted a class on fiction writing at the McDonald Belton

Campus. The class was offered on weekends over the course of the spring semester

1978 Special Spanish Coursework Historically, North Platte's population base has contained a Hispanic demographic which ranges from 5 percent to 7 percent. A course called "Spanish for Law Enforcement Officers and Public Employees" was offered in the fall of 1978 to help bridge the language barrier. The course was a joint effort between the McDonald-Belton criminal justice department and the Spanish department. Arlys Eddy was the instructor.

1979 North Platte Class Taught by McCook Instructor During the spring semester of 1979, Patty Reimer, instructor at McCook Community College, travelled to North Platte and taught a night class entitled "The Female Role in Criminal Justice."

1979 Late Semester Pilot Effort Administrative scheduling creativity resulted in a 12-week (additional) fall semester which ran along side the regular 16 week semester. This "late semester" made it possible for students who did not enroll in August to begin their studies and still earn up to 13 credit hours, nearly a full load.

1979 Community Services Class The Community Services Division of McDonald-Belton offered 70 non-credit short courses in the fall of 1979 which ranged from quilting to dream study to microwave cooking. In addition to these North Platte classes, the Community Services Division also offered 11 short courses at Ogallala, Nebraska.

1979 MLT Demand Increases Department chairperson Truman Matthews noted that there was an increased demand for Medical Laboratory Technicians, especially in outstate Nebraska. At the time, MLT graduates were receiving annual salaries of from \$9,000 to \$12,000.

Fall 1980 Classes Offered at Ogallala Class offerings from McDonald-Belton were delivered to Ogallala residents. The classes were held at both the Ogallala junior high school and senior high buildings. Offerings were shorthand, beginning typing, accounting, and introduction to psychology.

Fall 1980 Late Semester Schedule For the second fall in a row, a Late Semester schedule was made available for students who missed the August college year opening. Course offerings were English composition, college algebra, biology, political science, psychology, and physical education.

Fall 1980 On-the-job Class Added The secretarial department at McDonald-Belton added a new “On-the-job-class” to the curriculum, an early form of internship experience.

1974-1984 Student Enrollment Over the years, a full-time student has been and still is defined as a student who is taking twelve semester credit hours or more during a normal fall or spring term. During the years from 1974 to 1984, the McDonald-Belton Campus (now referenced as the South Campus) had about 200 full-time students (per semester) at the beginning of the period, and this number gradually increased over the ten-year span to about 300 full-time students per semester by the end of the period. At McDonald-Belton, the number of part-time (eleven semester credit hours or fewer per semester) followed a headcount pattern similar to that of the full-time students.

In a September news article in the *Telegraph*, College President Ken Aten noted there was an all-time high number of full-time students at slightly over 600. This included full-time students at McDonald-Belton and Voc-tech campus locations.

Mid-1970’s Medical Laboratory Technician The MLT program also had its inception in the pre-merger period. Sometime during the 1969-1970 academic year, James Carson, instructor of biology, was in discussions with Dr. Miles Foster and Dr. George Haslam, pathologists at Memorial Hospital, about the feasibility of developing classes to help prepare students for careers in medicine.

The initial discussions evidently did not progress much while Mr. Carson spent the following year (1970-1971) at Cornell University (NY) on a National Science Foundation Grant. When he returned, discussion about the program resumed, primarily with Doctor Miles Foster. It was ultimately decided the preferable option would be to develop a two-year program, after which time the graduates could become certified Medical Laboratory Technicians. The reasons for choosing the two-year program were detailed in a report to the Board of Governors by Truman (Monte) Matthews which follows:

There are three levels of Medical Laboratory Workers. The first level is Medical Laboratory Aide. The Medical Laboratory Aide takes six months of lecture and laboratory procedure training followed by a six month internship period. MLA’s work under close supervision of a certified technologist.

The next level of laboratory worker is the Medical Laboratory Technician. Those trained at this level normally receive an Associate Degree from a community college. MLT's receive twenty-four (24) months of academic, laboratory, and clinical training. This level of laboratory worker is responsible for performing all types of tests in the laboratory. A major restriction imposed on MLT's is that they may not head departments or become laboratory supervisors.

The final level of laboratory worker is the Medical Laboratory Technologist. Medical Technologists complete ninety (90) semester credit hours of academic studies with heavy emphasis in the sciences, followed by a year of clinical studies in a hospital laboratory; they are qualified to do all types of bench tests and are eligible to teach medical technology, serve as a department head, laboratory supervisor, and in certain instances become laboratory administrators.

During the school year 1973 Truman (Monte) Matthews who was teaching at Maxwell High School was hired on a one-fourth time basis to assist in the development of the new program and get it approved by the Area governing board, the State Board of Post Secondary Coordinating Commission, and NAACLS.

While all of this was happening, another merger was taking place in North Platte. North Platte then had two hospitals: Memorial and Saint Mary's. A major fund drive was underway to finance a new, more modern hospital which would then absorb the two existing hospitals. This new hospital, Great Plains Regional Medical Center, was being built at the same time as the McDonald-Belton Building on what is now the South Campus. Although getting all of the necessary authorizations for the MLT program had been completed by the beginning of the academic year 1975, the buildings were not. The academic classes for the new program would be at the downtown campus until the new building was operational. The lab classes were at Memorial Hospital because the labs at McDonald-Belton also were not yet ready. The instructors in the new program were Truman Matthews (now full-time) and Laura Marshall.

An article by Stephan Wittman in the North Platte *Telegraph* of the MLT program (28 1 1976) in an interview with Program Director Truman (Monte) Matthews summarized the first semester of the MLT program.

A new program to train Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT's) for a three state area has just completed its first and begun its second semester at Mid-Plains Community College.

The college has invested about \$60,000 in setting up the program, about half of it going to the purchase of machinery and special equipment according to program director Monte Matthews. The MLT school will hereafter operate on an estimated \$37,000 annual budget, he said. Matthews explained that the program was created 'to fulfill the acute need for competent laboratory personnel' in small hospitals and medical clinics throughout the state.

Mid-Plains will now serve as the training center for an area with a radius of 500 miles, drawing students primarily from Nebraska but also from Northeastern Colorado and Northwestern Kansas.

A three year program, the MLT program has a student capacity of 20 and allows for the admission of 10 students at the beginning of each new school year in August. Included is a three-month internship.

Students spend about 10 hours a week on campus and another 20 hours in a clinical facility. They also hear a variety of lectures by hospital personnel ranging from pathologists and nurses and clergymen, lawyers and public relations officers.

Tuition is the same as for other Mid-Plains schools, plus a \$50 lab fee per semester making it 'more economical' than similar programs at other schools according to Matthews. Also, due to the shortage of MLT's in Nebraska, graduate placement is almost assured. 'We feel that, at present, we can find jobs for all our students,' he said.

Applications are accepted on a year round basis, due to drop-outs, he said. It is a tough program - we lost three students this first semester - but there is also a waiting list to get in.

He added that applications are not accepted automatically. A four person selection board examines academic background, personal references and work record, and gives some consideration to aptitude and interest inventories before accepting - or rejecting - an applicant. Only 50 percent of those applying were accepted for the first semester, Matthews noted. To enter the program an applicant must have

graduated from high school or have completed a General Educational Diploma program. In case of a vacancy it is filled from pending applications.

As the program became established, Mr. Matthew's duties were to have shifted from an emphasis on coordination to instruction with assistance from one full-time and one half-time instructor. Laura Marshall left the MLT program after two years and returned to full-time duty at the hospital. In 1977-1978 there were three instructors listed for the program: Truman Matthews, Chris Behrens and Mel Smith. Mr. Matthews at this time was suffering from severe and rapidly advancing diabetes which was affecting his eyesight. Because of his rapidly deteriorating eyesight, instructional assignments were juggled to allow him to be primarily the director of the program where he could still function effectively despite his handicap. Monte Matthews subsequently requested his sick leave and disability insurance to support him in making the transition, through advanced study, to a career in some type of guidance and counseling.

Probably because of the available facilities during the early years, the program did not receive full accreditation from the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

1981 Changing Nature of Community Service Classes In a February 28, 1981, *Telegraph* article p. 4, Dean of Community Services Tom Gorman noted the changes in community services classes over the years. Many of the changes resulted from new demands such as a Motorcycle Safety Class and Country Western Dancing.

1982 MLT Initial Accreditation The Med Lab Tech instructional program at McDonald-Belton campus received initial accreditation for five years in the spring of 1982.

1982 Motorcycle Course A Motorcycle Rider Course was offered for the first time in the summer of 1982 at McDonald-Belton Campus. Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, coordinated the course with instructors Gary Gibbs and Mike Widhalm.

1982 Medical Equipment Fair The High Plains Emergency Medical Services held an EMS product fair at the McDonald-Belton Campus in September of 1982.

1984 Secretarial Students On Tour McDonald-Belton students, Nova Briener, Kelly Peregoy, Camalyn Hedgecock, and Jackie Siemers toured a number of North Platte business locations to learn more about office procedures and equipment. Instructor Eloise Schwab arranged the tour and accompanied the students.

MLT Testing 1984 Seven Medical Laboratory Technician graduates took the August 1984 registry exam given by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP). The following is the result of that exam: All seven candidates passed the examination. One hundred percent of the Mid-Plains candidates passed compared to 79.4 of the 2,571 candidates who took the exam. The school mean (166 of a possible 214) was higher than the national mean (154 of a possible 214). The school mean score for each respective category (micro-biology, blood banking, chemistry, hematology, and immunology) was higher than the national mean for each category. One candidate ranked in the top 9% with a score of 194 out of 214.

Arts, Science and Pre-professional These were two-year, four-semester programs that would transfer into four and five-year professional baccalaureate programs at senior colleges and universities.

Business The Business Administration program was a two-year, four-semester program for employment or transfer to baccalaureate programs. Real Estate was a one-semester, 18-hour certificate program. Secretarial was a two-year, four-semester program for employment or transfer to a baccalaureate program. Also, there was a one-year, two-semester program for employment.

Art course work was expanded by increasing from a part-time instructor to a full-time instructor providing additional classes including sculpture and pottery.

Music The music offerings also increased from a part-time to a full-time instructor with more productions and touring with small groups to area schools.

Continuing Education/Community Services The Community Services Division which had provided for 189 participants in 10 classes in 1969 had, by the time of the merger (1973-1974), accommodated 1,841 people

in 128 classes for that academic year. Continuing education courses were so successful that in 1975 Tom Gorman left teaching in the business department and became the Dean of Continuing Education. During the first decade after the merger, the number of people served increased annually to 4,338 in 254 classes.

The name slowly evolved from non-credit/continuing education to community services, a title which does reflect more accurately what was being done.

Like many other offerings by community colleges in the 1970's, the adult education/community services classes experienced tremendous growth in North Platte. The classes offered ranged from conversational languages, fitness, cooking, crafts and other hobby and personal interest offerings. The selection of classes offered in those years ranged from "womb to tomb" as the array of offerings included everything from childbirth classes to "How to Write Your Obituary."

The growth experienced by Community Services came as a result of more people taking self-improvement classes and for required professional upgrading. Another and probably more important reason for the growth was Dean Gorman's making available the college facilities for both the public and private sectors by providing adequate facilities for speeches, seminars, and workshops. In part, this increase was made possible by the completion of the theater at McDonald-Belton.

The following is an end-of-year (1977-1978) report on community services by Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services. It provides a sampling of the kinds of community services instructional activities for one year.

The enrollment of over 3,100 students in more than 200 non-credit classes highlighted the most successful year in the history of the Community Services Division of Mid-Plains Community College. The number of students enrolled this year far exceeds all previous enrollment as last year's record of 2,571 was surpassed with an increase of 565 in Community Services classes, but it certainly indicates the tremendous interest that the people in this area of Nebraska have in continuing education. People of nearly every age have enrolled in the greatest variety of classes that we have ever made available. The variety of classes have included people enrolled in everything from childbirth

classes to special classes for senior citizens, thus confirming the concept that learning is a life-long process.

The success of the program this year can be attributed to many factors which include the development of both morning and afternoon classes as well as the traditional evening classes; the establishment of off-campus sites; the excellent quality of instruction; and the cooperative efforts of other agencies, such as Great Plains Mental Health Clinic and the Childbirth Education Association.

Nearly every week throughout the college year, various civic groups and organizations were scheduled into college facilities, thus making the college an integral part of the community. Kearney State College classes were scheduled on the campuses of the college during the year as over 300 Kearney State students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate courses in our facilities. The University of Nebraska also offered several courses and workshops on our campus this year.

Dean Gorman in his report on Community Services touched briefly on the Adult Basic Education Program administered by Anne Miller, Director of Adult Basic Education. Following is a portion of her final end-of-the-year (1977-1978) report on Adult Basic Education.

The Mid-Plains Community College Adult Basic Education Program is a joint venture of the federal government, the state government, and the local College Board of Governors. Its primary objective is to serve those individuals who are over sixteen years of age and who have not completed high school.

During the past year, instruction has been given to 272 students in the topics of basic reading skills, basic mathematic skills, reading in natural sciences, reading in literature, English, high school level mathematics, life skills and preparation for the Tests of General Educational Development (G.E.D.). These tests enable individuals to earn the Nebraska High School Equivalency Diploma or a Diploma through their own school board.

The major changes occurring during the past year concerned the North Platte program. The Nebraska State Department of Education granted the program additional monies in the

fall to open an Independent Learning Center. These monies were granted on the basis of a Special Projects proposal. The Independent Learning Center was duly located in Room 142 of the McDonald-Belton Campus, which is a connecting room to the Learning Resource Center, and operated during the afternoon hours beginning in November and continuing through the first week of May.

Another change involved the relocation of the A.B.E. night classes to the McDonald-Belton Campus. This has proved to be an advantageous move. Contact hours per month immediately increased, and the individuals in the program, while at first reluctant to make the change, actually preferred the Campus to the North Platte High School. Students now identify with Mid-Plains Community College rather than their past failures in the high school system. A bilingual aide (Spanish and English) was added to the North Platte staff. Rescheduling and reassigning of duties for the staff led to better utilization of time and abilities of the individual teachers.

The Ogallala TRW Plant program was maintained during the past year. In this program, those employees who had not completed high school were eligible to receive one hour per week with pay to attend the A.B.E. classes on site. Due to the continuing efforts of Linda Hellman, Director of Employee Benefits at TRW, the College has made other educational opportunities available to TRW employees. As long as enough individuals wish to attend class to justify the service, the A.B.E. program will continue to function at the plant. This is one of the few industrial sites in Nebraska which house A.B.E. instructional programs.

For the first time, this year the personnel management of the Union Pacific Railroad has been interested in the idea of sponsoring A.B.E. instruction on site. Contact has been made, and we are currently awaiting upper level approval of the program.

The following table contains pertinent data regarding the A.B.E. program during the past year (1977-1978).

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>Instructional Staff.</i> | <i>336 teachers, 2 aides</i> |
| <i>Total Enrollment (Cumulative).</i> | <i>272</i> |
| <i>Total Enrollment North Platte</i> | <i>236</i> |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Total Enrollment TRW Plant. | 36 |
| % Native American. | 3 |
| % Asian. | 5 |
| % Hispanic. | 9 |
| % Black. | 1 |
| % Female. | 65 |
| % Male. | 35 |

During this past year, ninety-two individuals passed the G.E.D. test and received their high school equivalency diplomas. Many used this diploma as a passport to further training at the institutions in the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area. Others completed the G.E.D. test in view of the fact that a high school diploma is now necessary to apply for many jobs and is strongly suggested for entrance into the armed services.

Not all students in the A.B.E. Program are ready to take the G.E.D. test in one year's instructional time. Many come to the program without the ability to read or write at all. Some are from foreign countries, including Viet Nam, Laos, Thailand, China, Japan, Mexico, and Germany. Others never attended school, quit before they learned to read and write, or were passed on from grade to grade without an adequate check of their literacy skills. Progress at this level is expectedly lower.

The annual A.B.E. Recognition Night was held Sunday, May 7, at 1:00 p.m. at the McDonald-Belton Campus. Over 200 people attended the event designed to recognize individuals who had successfully completed the General Educational Development test and who had participated in the A.B.E. program during the past year. Congresswoman Virginia Smith gave the keynote address. The Lucille B. Ditton Memorial Awards were presented for the third year. Awards were given for outstanding achievement of the basic educational level attendance and the highest G.E.D. score. The Director's Award was presented to Congresswoman Smith. This award serves to recognize outstanding contributions to the field of A.B.E. After the event, refreshments were served. The recipients of awards, and that includes all A.B.E students in attendance, greatly appreciated the recognition they received.

Emotions run high during the culminating event of the A.B.E. year. All of the benefits of this program are offered at no charge to the individuals who qualify; there is a nominal testing fee for the administration of the G.E.D. test.

1979 North Platte ABE Graduation One hundred and eleven adult students graduated with GED certificates.

1979 “Interterm” Offered A spring Interterm was offered at McDonald-Belton from May 24 to June 8. Classes offered were art, philosophy, tennis, finance, security, social problems, chemistry, and hematology.

1979 Chemistry Classes at Broken Bow To accommodate nursing students in the Broken Bow area who wanted to work toward their BSN in nursing through Kearney State College, McDonald-Belton Campus delivered the chemistry classes needed for the degree work.

Fall 1980 Non-Credit Offerings Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, indicated that there would be over 60 non-credit classes available to area residents in the fall of 1980. Gorman commented that about 700 people had preregistered for non-credit classes.

1983 Adult Basic Education Continues Its Work Deanna Odean was busy working with 298 Adult Basic Education students at her site location of Fifth and Jeffers Street in downtown North Platte. The program was funded by the Nebraska Department of Education, the federal government, and Mid-Plains Community College Area.

Graduation Requirements/Completions

Associate of Arts Degree There was a requirement of 60 hours for pre-professional degrees with core requirements in communications, humanities, mathematics and science, social sciences and physical education.

Associate of General Studies Degree There was a requirement of 60 hours without specific requirements.

Program Completions for McDonald-Belton

| | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Arts & Science | 57 | 68 | 61 | 69 | 57 | 60 | 66 | 68 | 74 | 83 |
| Including Med-Lab Tech Business Occp./ Sec | 20 | 43 | 31 | 47 | 28 | 36 | 21 | 31 | 25 | 21 |
| Annual total | 77 | 111 | 92 | 116 | 85 | 96 | 87 | 99 | 99 | 104 |

The ten-year total of Arts and Science, including Med-Lab Tech students, was 663; for Business Occupations and Secretarial 303; and the annual total for these programs combined was 966.

Student Placement and Follow-up Faculty assisted placement office officials in helping students find suitable employment. In terms of placement success, academic transfer students continued on with their education at receiving institutions at the rate of 50% to 75%, depending on the year, and 15% to 30% of these students found employment over the ten years from 1974 to 1984.

1981-1982 Employment Opportunities for Local MPCC Graduates Down Records from the student placement office at the Voc-Tech campus indicated that job offers to local college graduates were down somewhat from the preceding year.

Sports

1974 Beginning Again There was a more obvious break in athletics at the time of the merger in 1974. The funding from the state for the Area was greatly decreased. While some of the funding was subsequently restored, the ten year run of a very successful track program came to an end.

1974 Women's Athletics Women's athletics began at Mid-Plains Community College in 1974 with volleyball. The first volleyball coach was Barb Reifler who was doing her student teaching in North Platte that semester and agreed to be the coach of the fledgling team.

Girls' athletics in the high schools were also relatively new, especially in the larger high schools, so the pool of talent for the new sport was

quite limited. However, unlike the beginning years of basketball at the college, this was a common problem for all of the competing colleges in Nebraska.

1974 Lady Knights Volleyball The first women's volleyball team members were Mary Jo Erickson, Jeane McMahon, Janie Crosby, Carol Harper, Sheryl Arensdorf, Mary Christian, Linda Klingsporn, Sue White, Shirley Taylor, Brenda Taylor, and Brenda McAdams. The coach was Barb Reifler. The most valuable players of this first team were Mary Christian and Linda Klingsporn.

1974-1975 Knights Basketball In 1974 Steve Aggers, who had played for the Knights in the second and third years of the college, came back as head coach. In his four years as coach, Aggers compiled a 76-48 record with a .613 winning percentage. After the 1977-1978 season, Coach Aggers resigned to take a coaching position at a four-year college. During Coach Aggers' four-year tenure, two of his players, Rich Weese and Bruce Hurd, were named as All-Region IX players. In 1978 Coach Aggers was replaced by Rusty Parker who remained for seven years compiling a record of 123-82 and a winning percentage of .600. During Coach Parker's seven-year stay, five players, Kevin Bromley, Ken Cera, David Wick, Tod McKeone, and Ray Collins were named as All-Region IX players.

1974-1975 Knights Basketball The 1974-1975 basketball team members were Kevin Burbach, Dan Curtis, Calvin Dahlkoetter, Darrell Dolezal, Paul Fox, Gary King, Kevin O'Connor, Gene Powell, Mike Scanlon, Stan Schoenemann, and Rich Weese.

1974-1975 Knights History Making Season For the first time in the ten-year athletic history of the college the 1974-1975 Mid-Plains Community College Knights had finished in first place in the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference.

Even though the first place finish was in a three-way tie with Platte College and Northeast College the team had much to be proud of since they were picked by sports writers and coaches to finish near the cellar. This team accomplished the miracles with a new coach, only one returning starter from preceding year's team and 10 new players. As the season progressed the Knights stormed back the second half of the season to finish the year at 20-9 for the regular season, then lost a narrow two point contest to Eastern Wyoming College 60-58 in the Sub-Regional playoffs. This fine season was highlighted by two wins each over arch rivals Platte College

(now Central Community College) and McCook College. In addition, a first-ever road win at Colby College of Colby, Kansas. The Knights played a very respectable .500 basketball on the road and finished the year with their 10th straight home court victory stretching that home court record to 13-2 for the year. With all Nebraska natives and a considerable amount of hard work, hustle, dedication, togetherness and PRIDE, in the years 1974-1975 the Knights finished one of the most successful early seasons.

The defensive-oriented team finished the year with a team defensive average of 67.6 points which was third best in Region IX and in the top 25 teams nationally. They came within four points of breaking the school record for points in one game, in points given up and held top opposing teams down all year.

1974 Men's Track During the spring of 1974, the MPTCCA Board of Governors decided to drop both track and cross country, citing finances as the primary factor in their decision since those two sports were not revenue generating activities. This was no doubt true, but another significant factor was also involved. In March, the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area received from the state the 1974-1975 budget (a result of the merger process mandated by the state). The amount established for the Mid-Plains Area for all extra-curricular activities, including athletics, would be less than one-third that of the 1973-1974 budget. Some of this money was later restored to the budget, but the decisions for the budget year had, of necessity, already been made. Another element was possibly involved in this decision although it doesn't seem to appear in the deliberations. TITLE IX had just been enacted and was becoming a significant force in all athletics.

1975 Request for New Athletic Programs At the May Board meeting a request for new athletic programs was considered. These requests concerned women's volleyball, women's basketball and softball; for men the requests were for basketball, golf, and baseball.

1975-1976 Budgeting The 1975-1976 budget included \$6,000 for women's athletics and \$5,000 to start baseball.

1975 New Women's Athletics Coach The Board approved the hiring of Teresa Caswell as the new women's athletics coach and also women's physical education. The second decade of the college had women's sports with Teri Caswell as the first full-time coach of women's athletics. Teri Caswell was named coach for both volleyball and women's basketball in 1975. In her six years as coach, her volleyball teams compiled a winning

record of 126-90-2 for a winning percentage of .578. Her basketball team record for the period was 47-67 with a winning percentage of .412. After six years, Coach Caswell resigned to take a similar position at the University of Northern Colorado.

1975 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1975 volleyball team members were Teresa Barner, Lorna Beardsley, Denise Dodson, Sandy Fear, Carol Harper, Vicki Hopping, Sally Kellogg, Cathy Lupomech, Rita McMahon, Deb Peterson, Linda Sorenson, and Shirley Taylor. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable player was Sandy Fear.

1975-1976 Knights Basketball The 1975-1976 basketball team members were Kevin Burbach, Dan Curtis, Calvin Dahlkoetter, Darrell Dolezal, Glen Davis, Bruce Hind, Tom Lodes, Kevin O'Connor, Mike Scanlon, Stan Schoenemann, Brian Tieman, Rich Weese, Mark Ahart, and Paul Fox. The coach was Steve Aggers.

1975-1976 A Very Good Season North Platte sophomore Rich Weese led the Knights in scoring and rebounding during the 1975-76 basketball season. The Knights won their first sub-regional NJCAA title and qualified for the Region IX Tournament. The Knights finished with a 21-10 record.

1975 Men's Baseball In 1975, with much of the slashed funding of the preceding year restored, men's athletics again had a spring sport. Men's baseball began with Lowell Fenster, automotive instructor on the vocational-technical campus (now the north campus), as coach. The following year Chuck Francis, an instructor at North Platte Senior High School, became baseball coach. He continued as coach through the 1978 season. Bob Rabe became the coach for what was the final year of baseball at Mid-Plains Community College. The baseball program was dropped at the end of the 1979 season. Several factors contributed to this decision. Because of the limited number of two-year colleges that played baseball, long distances were involved in finding other teams to play. Also, the baseball coach was not a full-time faculty member so a part-time coach was necessary. One note of interest concerning the baseball program, a young man, Frank Anderson from Grant, Nebraska, played for the Knights the final two years. He was named to a junior college All-American team. Mr. Anderson stayed with collegiate baseball and is now (2011) head baseball coach at Oklahoma State University.

1976 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1976 volleyball team members were Miriam Berke, Julie Bremer, Joy Crow, Mary Dishman, Julie Eshleman, Sandy Fear, Vicki Hopping, Cindy Meyer, Karla Miller, Patty Nelson,

Linda Sorensen, and Zoy Vigil. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable players were Julie Bremer, Julie Eshleman, and Sandy Fear.

1976-1977 Knights Basketball The 1976-1977 basketball team members were Jon Albrecht, Mark Ahart, Roger Behrends, Glen Davis, Bruce Hurd, Don Jackson, Tom Lodes, Mike Lyman, Mike Niemeyer, Randy Mroczek, Dave Sharpe, Scott Shriner, Brian Tiernan, and Tom Wolf. The coach was Steve Aggers.

1977 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1977 volleyball team members were Miriam Berke, Judy Crosby, Joy Crow, Shelly Dorman, Julie Eshleman, Julie Michaels, Karla Miller, Patty Nelson, Jana Powers, Michele Skala, and Sharon Spry. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable player was Julie Eshleman.

1977-1978 Knights Basketball The 1977-1978 basketball team members were Jon Albrecht, Roger Behrends, Rich Haase, Don Jackson, Jaye Kieselhorst, Mike Lyman, Scott Major, Randy Mroczek, Mike Niemeyer, Kevin Patterson, Mitch Peterson, Jim Reinders, Steve Rouch, Dave Sharpe, Scott Shriner, Lyle Snell, Steve Wentz, and Tom Wolf. The coach was Steve Aggers.

1978 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1978 volleyball team members were Justine Moody, Sharon Janeski, Jeanne Hopping, Deb Meyers, Judy Crosby, Shelley Dormann, Julie Michaels, Mary Jo Slingsby, Shelly O'Neil, Natalie Hardy, LeAnn Dikeman, and Courtney Kennicutt. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable players were Shelly Dormann and Shelly O'Neil.

1978-1979 Knights Basketball The 1978-1979 basketball team members were Les Adelung, Jon Berblinger, Kevin Bromley, Rich Haase, Kirk Harrington, Mark HasenJager, Jaye Kieselhorst, Mark Koehler, Scott Major, Don Pesek, Kevin Patterson, Mitch Peterson, Jim Reinders, Steve Rouch, Tom Skow, Lyle Shell, Steve Tarr, Bill Tomlinson. The coach was Rusty Parker.

1979 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1979 volleyball team members were Olivia Martinez, Linda Knapp, Marilyn Griffiths, Lori Theiler, Linda Capps, Charity Hill, Theresa Vlasin, Shelly O'Neil, Julie Doyle, Lisa Young, Angie Fleecs, and Bonnie Wallin. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable player was Shelly O'Neil. The 1979 team received national ranking for the first time. Coach Teri Caswell noted that the team earned 13th place ranking in the nation's (NJCAA) top 20 teams.

1979-1980 Knights Basketball and Special Event The 1979-1980 basketball team members were Les Adelung, Jon Berblinger, Kevin Bromley, Scott Bumba, Jon Chu, Kirk Harrington, Mark Hasenauer, Mark Koehler, Gary Kyle, Jeff Lemke, Tim Mulherin, Collin Payne, Don Resek, Tom Skow, Steve Tarr, and Bill Tomlinson. The coach was Rusty Parker.

Members of the 1979-1980 team had the opportunity to play a preliminary game against Arapahoe Community College. Later that evening in the same location, the Denver Nuggets played the Seattle Super Sonics.

1979-1980 Lady Knights Basketball The 1979-1980 basketball team members were Kylee Bean, Shelly O'Neil, Teresa Vlasin, Brenda Laflan, Marilyn Griffiths, Joan Castle, Charlie Lewis, Olivia Martinez, Sue Nelson, Bonnie Wallin, Charlene Bokoskie, Julie Doyle, Judy Yelkin, and Angie Fleecs. The coach was Teri Caswell. The student manager was Marsha Buttenback.

1980 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1980 volleyball team members were Linda Capps, Charity Hill, Julie Doyle, Lisa Young, Angie Fleecs, Carmen Buckbee, Colleen Chapman, Shari Lewandowski, Laura Miller, Brenda Scadegg, Sandy Summers, and Missy Trujillo. The coach was Teri Caswell. The most valuable player was Charity Hill.

1980-1981 Knights Basketball The 1980-1981 basketball team members were Bob Borders, Scott Bumba, Ken Cera, Jon Chu, Ned Golesh, Mike Johnson, Gary Kyle, Jeff Lemke, Tim Mulherin, Collin Payne, Gregg Pollard, Kirk Shuck, Jeff Smith, Pat Thramer, and Dennis Vontz. The coach was Rusty Parker.

1980-1981 Lady Knights Basketball The 1980-1981 basketball team members were Kylee Bean, Kim Unick, Judy Yelkin, Joan Castle, Renee Tatman, Colleen Chapman, Brenda Laflan, Charlie Lewis, Shari Lewandowski, Bonnie Wallin, Melanie Johanson, and Carmen Buckbee. The coach was Teri Caswell. The student manager was Marsha Buttenback.

Sally Thalken followed Coach Caswell in 1981. The winning record for Sally's volleyball teams was 145-32-2 for a winning percentage of .819. Her basketball team record for this time (1981-1985) was 49-47 with a winning percentage of .510. During this time, three Lady Knights volleyball players were named to All-American teams:

Carolyn Williams 1982 1st Team

| | | |
|--------------|------|-------------------|
| Suzie Cooper | 1983 | Honorable Mention |
| Lauri Tomas | 1984 | 2nd Team |

1981 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1981 volleyball team members were Tammy Ostendorf, Brenda Schadegg, Carolyn Williams, Roxi Hogg, Julie Martin, Cindy Marquette, Sandy Sommers, Susette Obermeier, Marcy Dickenson, Missy Trujillo, Julie Kissack, and Shari Lewandowski. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student manager was Donna Perry. The most valuable player was Sandy Sommers. Suzette Obermeier and Sandy Sommers were named to the All-Conference Team, Sandy Sommers was named to the All-Region IX Team, and Suzette Obermeier Sandy Sommers and Carolyn Williams were named to the All-Region IX Tourney Team.

1981-1982 Knights Basketball The 1981-1982 basketball team members were Dan Koehler, Jim Betcher, Bob Borders, Ken Cera, Ned Golesh, Mike Johnson Ken Libonati, Dave Lliteras, Dave Mallon, Greg Pollard, Kirk Shuck, Jeff Smith, Don Spalding, Rob Sparks, Pat Thramer, Dennis Vontz, and Dave Wicks. The coach was Rusty Parker.

1981-1982 Lady Knights Basketball The 1981-1982 volleyball team members were Carolyn Williams, Suzette Obermeier, Tammy Osterdorf, Julie Martin, Renee Tatman, Colleen Chapman, Shari Lewandowski, Julie Kissack, Lisa Hall, and Carmen Buckbee. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student manager was Donna Perry.

1982 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1982 volleyball team members were Sonja Dormann, Cheryl Fletcher, Any Tatman, Sue Aiken, Julie Martin, Cindy Marquette, Carolyn Williams, Cecilia Bieber, Marcy Dickenson, Joni Davis, Tammy Miller, and Suzi Cooper. The coach was Sally Thalken. Student Manager was Janet Greder. The most valuable players were Carolyn Williams and Cindy Marquette. Joni Davis, Cindy Marquette, and Carolyn Williams were named to the All-Conference Team, Carolyn Williams was named to the All-Region IX Team, and Joni Davis, Julie Martin, and Carolyn Williams were named to the All-Region IX tourney Team. Carolyn Williams was named first team All-American.

1982 Lady Knights Volleyball On October 28, 1982, the Lady Knights' volleyball team was ranked #4 by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

1982-1983 Knights Basketball The 1982-1983 basketball members were Joe Beem, Jim Betcher, Jim Black, Ken Dragoo, Tom Johnson, Dan

Koehler, Ken Libonati, Dave Lliteras, Dave Mallon, Tod McKeone, Troy Pickett, Don Spalding, Rob Sparks, Mike Pirog, and Dave Wicks. The coach was Rusty Parker.

1982-1983 Lady Knights Basketball The 1982-1983 basketball team members were Sonja Dormann, Carolyn Williams, Amy Tatman, Cecelia Bieber, Karmen Widdick, Mary Kay Coder, Sheila Dowse, Cindy Gunn, and Lisa Hall. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student manager was Janet Greder.

1983 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1983 team members were Renee Sandberg, Deb Turley, Brenda Mailander, Amy Tatman, Jean Moran, Michele Rasby, Lauri Tomas, Michelle Miller, Suzette Obermeier, Sandy Mann, Jacquie Mecomber, Teresa Brestel, and Suzi Cooper. The coach was Sally Thalken. The Student manager was Janet Greder. Suzi Cooper was the most valuable player. Suzi Cooper, Michelle Miller, and Suzette Obermeier were named to the All-Conference team; Suzi Cooper was named to the All-Region IX Team; and Suzi Cooper, Brenda Mailander and Sandi Mann were named to the All-Tourney Team. Suzi Cooper was named Honorable Mention All-American.

1983-1984 Knights Basketball The 1983-1984 basketball team members were Jerry Adams, John Arko, Joe Beem, Jim Black, Tom Callaghan, Ray Collins, Tim Cooper, Ken Dragoo, Jeff Essman, Tim Johnson, Shawn Lynch, Tod McKeone, Paul Reilley, and Chris Ritterbush. The coach was Rusty Parker.

1983-1984 Lady Knights Basketball The 1983-1984 basketball team members were Amy Tatman, Renee Sandberg, Lauri Tomas, Michele Rasby, Karmen Widdick, Mary Kay Coder, Sheila Dowse, Brenda Mailander, Teresa Brestel, Cecelia Bieber, Dena Weinman, Annie Anderson, and Pat Nowak. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student manager was Janet Greder.

Unusual / Notable

1975 North Central Accreditation In May of 1975 North Central announced that Mid-Plains College had been accepted as a candidate for accreditation.

1977 Howard Johnson On April 27, 1977, the Board announced arrangements had been completed with the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge for student lodging for the academic year 1977-1978.

1980 Downsizing At the April 11, 1980, Board meeting, Area President Dr. Hasemeyer announced that due to a seven percent budget lid imposed by the state, serious consideration should be given to reducing staff. Because of the necessity to reduce spending, after considering the problem, the Board recommended that three positions be abolished. The three positions selected were the Dean of Community Services at McCook (Bob Paschal), the Director of Federal Programs and Auxiliary Personnel at Mid-Plains Community College (Bill Powers), and the third position was the Director of Counseling and Assessment at McDonald-Belton.

1980 Adam Christ Collection In September of 1980, President Ken Aten reported to the Board of Governors that a major collection of 12,000 Native American artifacts was to be donated to the Mid-Plains Community College. Adam Christ began collecting artifacts in 1905, and at the time of the donation, he was 90 years of age. The collection was displayed in a special Area office room for many years.

1981 Accreditation Mid-Plains Community College (North Platte, including both the academic and the Voc-Tech campus locations) received accreditation from the North Central Association - Commissions on Institutions of Higher Education in October of 1981. It was an initial accreditation for a period of five years.

1981 Doctor of Medicine in Nigeria A former North Platte Junior College student who matriculated in the late 1960's completed his medical studies at the University of Guadalajara in Mexico. Sunday "Sunny" Orukwo planned to return to his hometown of some 40,000 and help build a hospital with the help of the World Health Organization. He met his bride-to-be while in Mexico. She also was a medical student.

1981 Ethel Crawford Continued Her Education North Platte native, Ethel Crawford, became the second oldest Nebraskan to earn a General Education Diploma at the age of 83. In her lifetime she taught in rural schools and enjoyed writing. After completing the GED, Ethel Crawford continued on with college studies for a period of time.

1982 Poetry Event at McDonald-Belton A special gathering of Nebraska poets and those interested in poetry was held in the spring of 1982. At that time, the State was considering naming a "State Poet," one who was still living and could represent the art of the poetry in Nebraska. At the McDonald-Belton gathering, two important Nebraska poets were represented: Bill Kloefkorn and Dr. Don Welch.

1983 McDonald-Belton Students Testify at Nebraska Legislature A group of McDonald-Belton students from Don Grubb’s criminal justice classes made the trip to Lincoln to testify on behalf of the academic transfer function at two-year colleges. At the time, State Senator Sam Cullan of Hemingford had introduced a bill that would have eliminated the academic portion of the role and mission of the State’s community college.

**MID-PLAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE -
VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CAMPUS: 1974-1984**

(now referenced as the North Platte Community College North Campus)

Faculty and Administration

Administration

| | |
|--|--|
| College President <i>(for both campus locations)</i> | Kenneth L. Aten |
| Dean of Administrative Services | A.L. Weigand (Shifted to Area Administration in 1976) |
| Dean of Vocational Instruction | James E. Doyle |
| Associate Dean of Students | Donald L. Rockafellow (Promoted in 1979 to Dean of Students) |
| Dean of Trade and Technical Instruction <i>In 1983, the title was changed to Director of Part-time Vocational Instruction</i> | Paul D. Winkler |
| Director of Nursing and Health Occupations | Pauline A. Shahan |
| Director of Special Federal Voc Programs | William Powers (this position was eliminated due to budget limitations in 1983). |
| Director of Placement | Glenn Yont (the position was changed to Director of Placement and Recruitment in 1977 when |

Mr. Yont retired and was replaced by Cliff Hermance who then became Director of Placement and Recruitment in 1979).

Faculty

Data Processing

Robert O'Donnell (replaced by Dave Green in 1979, who was replaced by Frank Freeman in 1981).

Dental Assisting

Cynthia Kelly (replaced in 1979 by Rose White).

Optometric Assisting

Mary Evans

Practical Nursing

Bridgetta Andersen, Barbara Christensen, Constance Homan, Elaine Kockrow, Elaine Maseberg, Lula Zlomke, Theresa Crook (replaced by Diane Hoffman in 1977), Iva Mueller (replaced by Judy Gutschenritter in 1985).

Auto Body

Don Wilson (started in 1976)

Auto Mechanics

Lowell Fenster, Robert Brown

Diesel Mechanics

Russell Berggren, Gerald Bevins (replaced in 1979 by Leonard Smith).

Machine Shop

Rex Cross (program discontinued in 1977 due to declining student enrollment).

| | |
|--|---|
| Welding and Metals | Emanuel Templien, Evert Evans (replaced in 1985 by Tim Golden) and Gerald Schroeder (position was discontinued in 1979 because federal student program stopped). |
| Electronics | Ron Vorderstrasse (replaced in 1976 by Gordon Koch) and Vern Petersen (who was replaced in 1979 by part-time instructor James Stewart, then in 1983 by full-time instructor William Powers). |
| Electrical | Ivan Nickerson (started full-time in 1977). |
| Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning | Leonard Van Ert, Nels Clang |
| Building Construction | Clarence Bell (replaced in 1983 by Howard Hansen); Ilon Egger (was replaced in 1981 by Robert Reed who was shifted from a discontinued federal program that he (Robert) had started with in 1975). Harvey Valentine in 1979 (was transferred to maintenance when a federal program was cut back). |
| Drafting | Hanford Lynn, Joe Szekely (replaced in 1977 with part-time instructors). |

Student Affairs and Activities

1975-1985 Early Student Organization/Activities An important early organization for the technical students was the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA). Most of the trade and technical departments became very active with post-secondary VICA and participated in State Skills Contests with some students qualifying for National Competition. Over the time from 1975 to 1985, the following students placed highly in national competition:

- 1977 - Larry Fletcher (North Platte) in Heating Ventilation and Air-Conditioning: 1st Place. His instructors were Leonard Van Ert and Nels Clang.
- 1979 - Ed Kinnish (Brady), Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning: 2nd Place. Instructors were Leonard Van Ert and Nels Clang.
- 1984 - William Wever (Sutherland), Electrical: 2nd Place. Instructor was Ivan Nickerson.
- 1984 - John Webster (Callaway), Auto Mechanics: top ten percent. Instructors were Robert Brown and Lowell Fenster.

The Building Construction and Drafting departments had student clubs that were linked to Nebraska Associated General Constructors and the North Platte Home Builder's Association.

1971 and Beyond - Inter-High Technical-Scholastic Contests The purpose of the contests was to give secondary students in the service area an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and accomplishments in their fields of study and to receive proper recognition for excellence. The Inter-high Technical Contest was initiated in 1971 when Mid-Plains Voc-Tech was solely a technical college and was later expanded to include the Academic Scholastic Contest in 1979. In 1971, the Vocational Contests included the fields of woodworking and cabinet making, livestock production, refinishing and auto body, carpentry and building construction, electricity and construction wiring, auto and diesel mechanics, drafting, electronics, welding and metals, air conditioning and power mechanics, health occupations, and data processing. The academic contest, added in 1979, included the areas of music, typing, literature, physical science, office practices and procedures, English composition, biological sciences book-keeping, accounting, history and political science, psychology and art and mathematics.

1971 Inter-High Vocational Fair and Art Fair The inter-high vocational fairs were designed to give secondary students in the Mid-Plains service area an opportunity to display shop and art projects and to be recognized for their excellence. The Mid-Plains Vocational Fair, initiated in 1971, involved only vocational programs and was combined with an Open-House in the various departments. In 1978, the Project Fair and Open-House was expanded to include an afternoon with the arts providing musical and dramatic performances.

1977 Student-Built House Sells A three bedroom house built by the building construction students at Voc-Tech brought \$36,000 in an auction in the spring of 1977. The sale was the highlight of the Vocational Fair and Art Fair. Mr. and Mrs. Hal Weitzel of North Platte were the high bidders.

1974-1984 Nursing Graduates Pass State Board Exams The following information is for the period from fall 1974 through the spring semester 1984. Since the nursing program students started twice each year, there were graduations and certifications twice each year, both winter and summer. Over the ten year period included in this section of the history book, 99 percent of the students passed the exams with much higher than the state and national average scores.

Licensed Practical Nurses Licensed practical nurses entering the Bryan Memorial Hospital School of Nursing could receive credit for past education and former work experience. The Nebraska State Board of Nursing approved Bryant's advanced placement program which allowed qualified licensed practical nurses to bypass the school's first 10-week nursing course. This would allow LPN's to enter the program in September rather than June. The director of the Bryan School said that in the past, licensed practical nurses who wanted to become registered nurses had to begin their academic studies all over again because Registered Nurse programs did not grant academic credit for what students had already learned.

1979 Voc-Tech Open-House and Fair On April 29th, the Open-House and Fair event was held at which two houses built by the Voc-Tech building construction students were auctioned off. Student projects from the vocational programs were also available for public viewing. At the McDonald-Belton Campus, an "Afternoon with Arts" event was held which was comprised of musical performances, a story theater for children, and the Court Jesters theater group presented a play titled "The Ugly Duckling."

1979 Inter-High Vocational Event Thirteen area high school students received awards at the 1979 Voc-Tech event. Student winners came from Medicine Valley, Overton, Maywood, Venango, Cozad, North Platte, and McCook public schools.

1980 Vocational Contest The Nebraska State Skills Olympics contest for Vocational Industrial Clubs of America was held at the Voc-Tech Campus. First place winners in the contest advanced to compete at the national level in Atlanta, Georgia.

1980 Vocational Fair North Platte and area high school students performed well at the the 1980 Voc-Tech Vocational Fair. High school students participating came from North Platte, Cozad, Hyannis, Maywood, and Venango.

1980 Adult Education Awards Eighty individuals received certificates indicating they had passed the G.E.D. test in the spring of 1980.

1981 VICA Competition Four North Platte students performed well in VICA Skill Olympic Contest. The first place winners advanced to a national contest in Atlanta, Georgia. North Platte students who placed first were Robert Clang in HVAC and Jeff Olson in auto mechanics. Other North Platte students who fared well were Duane Norman who placed second in HVAC and Curt Werner who placed third in auto mechanics.

1981 Vocational Fair Eight hundred to one thousand people attended the Vocational Fair held at both McDonald-Belton Campus and the Voc-Tech in May of 1981. As part of the event, a house built by the building construction Voc-Tech students was auctioned off for \$43,800. At the McDonald-Belton campus there was an art exhibit and musical performances.

1981 ABE Graduation One hundred and nine adults of all ages including 83 year old Ethel Crawford graduated at the ABE Graduation. Master of Ceremonies was Tom Gorman. Also, the Lucille Ditton Memorial Awards were presented for achievement, attendance, and highest G.E.D. test scores.

1982 Voc-Tech Open-House and Fair One thousand people attended the Annual Voc-Tech Open-House and Art Fair. Mr. and Mrs. Don Kotschwar won the bidding on the house constructed by the Voc-Tech building program students; the house sold for \$42,000. Also those attending enjoyed a student art exhibit and musical presentations at the McDonald-Belton Campus.

1983 Voc-Tech Students to Attend National Competition Voc-Tech students participated in a skills “olympics,” and six of them won the right to compete in national competition. The students were Tony Smith, Doug O’Dell, Ken Dubach, Dennis Thompson, Larry Daily, and Kenny Freimuth.

1983 Voc-Tech Open-House and Fair The annual fair was held, and the annual house auction also took place. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Marquardt of Wallace were the high bidders on the house which sold for \$48,000.

1984 ABE Graduation In the spring of 1984, there were 86 ABE graduates according to Deanna Odean. The guest speaker was Leonard Hill from Lincoln, Nebraska.

Facilities

Voc-Tech Facilities The main building on the Voc-Tech Campus had 69,410 square feet and was built in two phases. Each was paid for upon its completion in 1976. However, because of budget limitations, additional shop space was still needed for most of the shop areas. At this time, there was a substantial enrollment in the Building Construction Program that increased even further by the addition of an adjunct federal program. Since there was an unusual demand for projects for students and affordable additional building needs, supplementary buildings were built through instruction at little cost. Completed in 1976, the North Shop Building of 13,000 square feet contained shops for Concrete and Masonry, Upholstery, Welding Storage, Sheet Metal, Advanced Auto Mechanics, and Maintenance. The West Shop Building of 7,200 square feet was completed in 1979 to serve as a temporary Auto Body classroom and shop. The Electrical Shop Building of 3,040 square feet was completed in 1985 to provide instruction for a three-semester, 12-month Electrical Program. Additional parking and landscaping were provided as funding allowed over this 10-year period.

From 1980 through 1984, several energy grants were applied for and received for additional insulation, better and more efficient low pressure sodium shop lighting, and electric radiant shop heating that would result in less heat loss when the overhead shop doors were opened.

Facilities/Student Housing Originally, there was no student housing on either the McDonald-Belton or the Voc-Tech campuses. Students who didn’t commute each day were assisted in finding housing within the community by student services personnel. Housing in the community of

North Platte varied from home owners renting rooms or houses to apartment rentals and older motels rented by the week or month. Consequently, there was a demand for more convenient, nicer, more affordable housing with some measure of college control and supervision. However, it would be difficult to build college dormitories that would be competitive in cost compared to older colleges which had student housing built when costs were considerably less. One solution to the problem of cost was to build duplexes and triplexes through instruction as had been done in building some vocational shops. This process eliminated most labor costs.

For convenience of instructional programs, the housing units were built on the Voc-Tech campus but were used by students from both campuses. Each unit of student housing was approximately 800 square feet and cost approximately \$25,000.00. Each of the two or three units in each building had two bedrooms with two students in each and a living room, utility room, bathroom and kitchen with appliances shared by the four students. By 1988, ten student housing units were completed over a span of approximately 12 years through instruction with some help from maintenance. Since part of the reason for building was instruction, there was some variation in regard to energy efficiency. Three buildings were standard construction, two were super insulated, two were passive solar, and two were active solar. The tenth building provided living quarters for the housing supervisor and an activities/recreation center for students. This number of housing units would accommodate 78 students.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

Business Occupations

Data Processing - 12-month, three-semester program for employment or to a four-semester program leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

Health Occupations

Dental Assisting - nine-month, two-semester diploma program for employment.

Optometric Assisting - nine-month, two-semester diploma program for employment.

Practical Nursing - 12-month, two-semester diploma program for employment started two times a year: fall and spring.

Trade-Technical Occupations

All two-year, four-semester Associate Degree programs could be taken for a two-year Technical Diploma or a one-year, two-semester Diploma. A summer internship was also available to these students.

Auto body - twelve-month, three-semester Vocational Diploma program.

Automotive Mechanics - two-year, four-semester Associate Degree program.

Diesel Mechanics - two-year, four-semester Associate Degree program.

Building Construction - two-year Associate Degree program.

Drafting, Design, and CAD - two-year, four-semester Associate Degree program.

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) - two-year Associate Degree program.

Electronics Technology - two-year, four-semester Associate Degree program.

Electrical - 12-month, three-semester Vocational Diploma program (started in 1977 originally for MDTA students.)

Welding and Machine Technology - two-year, four-semester Associate Degree program (machine shop was combined with welding in 1977 because of low enrollments).

Open Entry Open Exit Vocational Programs

There was a need for some students to be able to start certain vocational programs at various times throughout the year rather than only in the fall. This was true for some industrial company training and especially for federally supported students MDTA (Manpower Development Training Act) and CETA (Continuing Education Training Act) programs that were designed to make people employable as soon as possible by starting at any time of the year. The instructional techniques of delivering instruction in short intervals (usually two weeks) allowed students to enter at various times at the point non-federally supported students were currently in the curriculum. This instructional strategy made it possible for instructors to teach the same materials to all students at the same time after the new students had taken a basic unit on the tools, materials, and

safety. It allowed better students to cover more extensive materials within the unit. It also made it possible for students who didn't need the entire program to take more conveniently the portion that they needed.

Summer Internship

For the students in the two-year, four-semester (18 weeks per semester) programs, there was an optional 12-week internship in their program areas of instruction. The internship was arranged with local area industries and was supervised by college instructors. This internship gave the students work experience and enhanced their employability upon completion of their program.

Special Vocational Classes

Mid-Plains Community College Vocational Technical Campus offered special classes whenever there was an interest from potential students or from business or industry. The metals and mechanics program areas of instruction produced, on a small scale, equipment to teach the production of fuel from grain alcohols. This allowed students to participate in the actual production of fuel, starting with cracked corn and ending with an engine running on ethanol. Russ Berggren was the instructor. The college applied for and received state/federal funding to provide secondary vocational instructors with advanced, hands-on training in several of the trade and industrial occupations including mechanics, electricity and electronics, welding, machine shop, air conditioning and sheet metal, and building construction. Those courses were provided at a variety of locations during the summer when public school teachers were more readily available.

Also, energy conservation for buildings including super insulation, passive solar and active solar was part of both the HVAC and building construction full-time and part-time programs. Two Mid-Plains Voc-Tech instructors (Robert Reed, building construction, and Nels Clang, heating and air conditioning) were selected to participate in a nation-wide project to develop curricula for and then train community college faculty in the installation of the various types of solar energy heating technologies.

1980 Fuel Production Technology Instructor Don Winkler noted the benefits of alcohol production for fuel purposes on the farm. The Voc-Tech developed an experimental still and a number of classes to introduce the potential for this new fuel.

1981 LPN Graduation Graduation ceremonies were held for 13 LPN Nursing Students at the Voc-Tech campus in the spring of 1981. Pauline Shahan, Director of the School of Practical Nursing, performed the capping ceremony. In September of that same year, another 25 nursing students were capped.

1974-1984 Enrollments Over the Period During the years from 1975 to 1984, the Voc-Tech Campus (North Campus) had about 300 full-time students (per term). In addition from 1975 to 1980, there were approximately 50 (CETA) federal students each semester in the departments of Building Construction, Welding, Electrical, Auto-Body and Secretarial. The CETA program concluded in 1980.

At Voc-Tech, the number of part-time students (eleven semester credit hours or fewer per semester) ranged from 700 to 1,000. Most part-time students were night students including students at off-campus locations at Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine, and McCook. There were also some classes in smaller towns across the service area as requested by the community.

1974-1984 Vocational Students - Student Placement and Follow-up Employment placement numbers for the 1974 to 1984 period ranged from 65% to 85% finding jobs, with another 5% to 10% continuing on with education at four-year institutions. Of those students who were employed, approximately 50% to 70% were employed in the Area and from 70% to 90% were employed in the state.

Graduation Requirements

Associate of Applied Science Degree Students in a particular Occupational Area (Department) completed a total program of 60 credit hours or more as well as mathematics, communications, consumerism, human relations, and humanities requirements.

Technical Diploma (18 to 21 Months) Students needed to complete a total program of 60 hours or more in a specific occupational program without the general education requirements.

Vocational Diploma (12 Months) Students were required to complete a total program of 42 hours or more in a specific occupational program.

Diploma (9 Month): Students needed all prescribed courses of at least 30 hours.

Miscellaneous Course Offerings Classes of both academic and vocational programs were available both day and night on and off campus. There were several vocational class offerings that were not part of complete programs. These were Printing and Photography, Sheet-metal and Plumbing, Small Engine Mechanics, Pilot Ground School, Emergency Medical Technician Ambulance, Nurse Aide, Industrial First Aide, Institutional Food Service, Fire Science, Agriculture, and Upholstery.

Program Completions for Voc-Tech

| | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| *Trade & Tech. Occupations | 53 | 76 | 77 | 82 | 73 | 49 | 88 | 83 | 85 | 123 |
| Business Occp./ Including Computer - Data Processing | 9 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 12 | 8 | 15 |
| *Health Occup. | 52 | 57 | 61 | 71 | 46 | 37 | 52 | 55 | 62 | 69 |
| Annual total | 114 | 143 | 146 | 161 | 123 | 89 | 147 | 150 | 155 | 207 |

*See narrative which follows Table.

In the tabular data above, **Trade and Technical Occupations** included combined data from the following programs: Building Construction, Drafting, HVAC, Electrical, Electronics, Auto Mechanics, Diesel Mechanics, Auto Body, Welding, and Machine Shop (Machine Shop until 1978). **Health Occupations** included combined data for Practical Nursing, Dental Assistant, Optometric Assistant programs. Ten-year totals for these grouped vocational programs were as follows: Trade and Technical - 789 students; Business Occupations including Computer Data Processing - 84; and Health Occupations - 562. The ten year total for all of these programs was 1435.

Unusual / Notable

1981 Accreditation Mid-Plains Community College (North Platte, including both the academic and the Voc-Tech campus locations) received accreditation from the North Central Association Commissions

on Institutions of Higher Education in October of 1981. It was an initial accreditation for a period of five years.

1982 Second Semester Enrollment More than 600 full-time students registered at McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech (combined number) in the spring semester of 1982. This was the first time for a full-time headcount number of that size.

1982 Tuberculosis Scare More than 120 Voc-Tech students, faculty, and administrators were tested for TB. A case of TB was diagnosed in a part-time upholstery instructor. It turned out to be a false alarm.

1982 Ten Year Milestone The Practical Nursing Program at Voc-Tech campus celebrated its tenth year of educating nurses for the profession. Pauline Shahan was the director of the program.

The Mobile Metals Shop/Portable Metal Equipment The project was developed and implemented under the Director of Part-time Vocational Instruction, Donald Winkler, and was used from 1983 until 2000. By 2000, it had served its purpose.



The Mobile Metals Shop was eight feet high, 12 feet wide and 60 feet long, weighed 21 tons, and had the capacity to instruct 10 to 12 students in various areas of arc welding and/or 10 to 12 students in machine shop. The van was self-sufficient with the support of a second smaller trailer which provided a stock of supplies needed for instruction and provided the electrical power hook-up. It provided for the instruction of high school Industrial Arts and/or Agricultural instructors who had taken a six-day special training program taught and provided by the Welding and Machine Shop Department at Mid-Plains Voc-Tech. The local high school instructors then became adjunct Mid-Plains Voc-Tech instructors, teaching welding and/or machine shop vocational classes for the adults in the community at night. The Metals Shop was scheduled during the summer to provide training for industry.

Since the acceptance by the area public schools and communities was very favorable, it became impossible to make the rotation through the entire eighteen county Area in the four-year period necessary to allow all high school students to make use of the van during their high school education. Consequently, Mid-Plains produced, at the direction of the administration, an additional different style of metals unit with the help of students, faculty, and maintenance personnel under the supervision of the Welding Department instructor Joe Templien.

It was too expensive and time-consuming to make a second Mobile Metals Shop, but there was the possibility of building a smaller, different type of unit to accommodate some of the smaller schools. These schools could use only a portion of the van because they did not have a sufficient power source to supply the van, and some schools really wanted to have some of the special welding and machine shop equipment brought into their regular shop building to be used in conjunction with the equipment they already had in the metals area.

Mid-Plains developed a second unit of portable Metals Equipment, which was restyled to be so portable that it could be easily loaded into a truck, transported to the public school and quickly set up in the existing shop building. In order to provide transportation, the college placed two used truck vans with lift platforms on two government-surplus trucks. The twelve foot long truck van would accommodate the welding and machine shop supplies including metal, welding gas,

welding rods, etc. The 20 foot long truck van delivered and picked up the portable welding and machine shop equipment. Each welding unit had the welder mounted on wheels/casters under the welding bench with an expandable welding booth made of tubing with canvas attached. There were four combination AC-DC arc welding units with high frequency attachments allowing them to be used for TIG welding as well as regular stick welding, two MIG type semi automatic wire feed welding units, two used metal lathes, two used milling machines, and one metalworking bench which held the small and supplementary equipment and tools needed.

The schools using this mobile equipment in their own shops all had some welding equipment to supplement that of the college and/or had less demand because of smaller enrollments. The schools were allowed to use the equipment for a longer period, eight weeks. This factor assisted with the need for a smaller amount of equipment.

In terms of the subsequent impact of the Mobile Van, Van-related enrollments of high school students during the day and adult vocational students at night could be measured and were substantial, but the public relations and support developed between the Voc-Tech, area schools, their communities and industries was beyond measure.



The Mid-Plains Community College version of bringing training to machine shop and welding instruction from the College to its area caught the eye of education nationally. It was the cover photo ad feature article of the January-February 1983 issue of the *ATEA Journal*. It was accepted by *School Shop*, another national technical publication, and featured in its monthly publication September 1983.

1983 Practical Nursing At the May 25, 1983, Board meeting the Board approved an agreement with the McCook Community Hospital and Mid-Plains Community College School of Practical Nursing to offer a class for the first half of the Practical Nursing Program at McCook Community College for students in that area. The last part of the Practical Nursing program would then be completed on location on the Voc-Tech Campus at North Platte.

Sources Consulted

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Mid-Plains Community College Catalog | 1975-1976, 1976-1977 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Catalog | 1977-1979, 1979-1981 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Catalog | 1981-1983, 1983-1984 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 18 May, 1975 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 9 May, 1976 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 15 May, 1977 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 14 May, 1978 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 20 May, 1979 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 18 May, 1980 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 17 May, 1981 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 16 May, 1982 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 14 May, 1983 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 19 May, 1984 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 18 May, 1985 |
| Mid-Plains Voc-Tech Inter-High Technical Contest & Vocational Fair | 1971 |
| Mid-Plains Voc-Tech Inter-High Technical Contest | 1974 |
| Mid-Plains Voc-tech Inter-High Vocational Fair | 1974 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Technical Contest | 1975 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Vocational Fair | 1975 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Technical-Scholastic Contest | 1979 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Vocational Fair, Open House, and Afternoon with the Arts | 1979 |

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|---|--------------------------------|
| Mid-Plains Community College Graduate Placement Report | 1976-1982 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Graduate Employment Survey | 1983-1984 |
| First and Second Semester Full and Part-time Student Enrollment | 1975-1976 Through 1983-1984 |
| Recommendation to (North Platte) Junior College Board President from attorney M. M. Maupin in reference to Janet McDonald bequest | 6 April, 1976 |
| Dedication of McDonald-Belton Building Program | 23 Feb, 1975 |
| Mid-Plains Technical Community College Agreements with: | |
| Wayne Dowhower Construction | 29 July, 1976 |
| Lundeen's, Inc. | 29 July, 1976 |
| Snell Electric Service | 29 July, 1976 |
| Hinde, Laurinat and Nelson Architects | |
| Conventional Student Housing Duplex Plans | 1978 |
| Active Solar Student Housing Duplex Plans | 1979 |
| Passive Solar Student Housing Duplex Plans | 1981 |
| Super Insulated Student Housing Duplex Plans | 1984 |
| Housing Supervisory/Student Activities Center Plans | 1986 |
| North Shop Building Plans | 1973 |
| West Shop Building Plans | 1977 |
| Electrical Shop Building Plans | 1983 |
| School Shop September | 1983 |
| ATEA Journal February | 1983 |

Chapter 3

Building Blocks of an Area

1984-1994

By the middle 1980's, it was time to begin to knit together what initially had been a loose confederation of once free-standing colleges into something more cohesive. The building blocks of an Area needed to be set in place. Looking back at this period, the history writers of this book identified a number of such building blocks:

- In 1985-1986, Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area - all campus locations - applied for single unit, Area-wide accreditation with the North Central Association Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. After completing the requirements and experiencing an on-site visit by an evaluation team, MPTCCA was granted Area-wide accreditation status.
- During this period of years, college calendars were synchronized.
- Course numbers, to the degree possible, were aligned across all campus locations.
- Matters of policy and governance began to be standardized and unified. At an earlier time, each campus location had separate policies and procedures.
- The Voc-Tech Mobile Metals Van serviced an increased number of service area communities.
- A Career Assessment Center began operations. Services of the Center were available to students and patrons across the area.
- As noted in this book in a number of places, the LPN program was first developed and initiated in North Platte. Subsequently, branches were begun and staffed in McCook, Broken Bow, and Valentine.

MPTCCA BOARD OF GOVERNORS 1984-1994

1985 MPTCCA Board Members were David Pederson (Chairman), Jack Donelson, Keith Sheldon, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Kent Miller, Louie Stithem, and Jeff Evans.

1986 MPTCCA Board Members were David Pederson (Chairman), Jack Donelson, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louie Stithem, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

1987 MPTCCA Board Members were Jack Clark (Chairman), Jack Donelson, Dale Poore, Dave Pederson, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louie Stithem, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

1988 MPCCA Board Members were Louie Stithem (Chairman), Jack Donelson, Dale Poore, Dave Pederson, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

1989 MPCCA Board Members were Jane Hornung (Chairperson) Jack Donelson, Dale Poore, Alan Hirschfeld, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louie Stithem, and Kent Miller. (Note: Rick Kolkman was appointed on August 23, 1989, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jack Donelson).

1990 MPCCA Board Members were Leonard Farrell (Chairman), Rick Kolkman, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Alan Hirschfeld, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louie Stithem, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

1991 MPCCA Board Members were Dale Poore (Chairman), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Jack Clark, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

1992 MPCCA Board Members were Mary Elizabeth Mitchell (Chairperson), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Lamoine Carmichael, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

1993 MPCCA Board Members were Mary Elizabeth Mitchell (Chairperson), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer,

Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Lamoine Carmichael, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

1994 MPCCA Board Members were Alan Hirschfeld (Chairperson), Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Lamoine Carmichael, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

AREA ADMINISTRATION: 1984-1994

Administrators and Staff

1984-1989

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arnesdorf |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |

1989-1992

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arnesdorf |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Wiezorek |
| Public Information Director | Rich Chamberlain |

1992-1994

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arnesdorf |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Greg Fritz |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Foundation and Grants | Chuck Schwartz |

Facilities

1987 Board Approves Capital Projects In the spring of 1987, the MPCCA Board approved three construction projects; one at each of the campus locations. For the Voc-Tech, a diesel shop building project was approved, a project that would be constructed in two phases. For McCook, the old Depression era gymnasium/classroom building named True Hall was to receive a major renovation/upgrade. At McDonald-Belton, the area of building dealing with student admissions was to be made lighter and was to be enclosed in glass.

1987 Board Approves Major Repair Project At the October MPCCA Board Meeting, the Board approved a \$16,000.00 bid to upgrade and improve the heating and cooling system at McDonald-Belton Campus. The Board also heard reports concerning progress on the diesel shop building project.

1987 Board To Seek Bids on Bus At their December meeting, Board members decided to seek bids on a bus to transport students to athletic activities. Up to this time, North Platte athletes had been transported in a van and another vehicle. The quarters were cramped for the student athletes.

1989 Dorm Work in McCook At the February 1989 meeting, the Board gave approval to begin work on an 80 bed dormitory expansion on Brooks Hall. This was a project which also involved the McCook College Foundation. The Foundation's involvement is described later in this book.

Administrative Processes and Events

1984 Kent Miller Elected MPTCCA Board member Kent Miller was elected to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post - Secondary Education.

1985 Estate for Board Action In the fall of 1985, the MPTCCA Board voted to accept a McCook estate valued between \$30,000 and \$40,000. The estate was given by Robert and Lorraine Phillips and family.

1985 Board Resignation Jeff Evans of Broken Bow resigned from the Board of Governors, District III on January 23, 1985.

1985 Board Member Appointment Jane Hornung was appointed to the Board of Governors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jeff Evans.

1985 MCC Dorm-Rate Increase A dorm-rate increase from \$230 a semester to \$250 was approved by the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Board at their March 1985 meeting. The tuition rate for the next year was set at \$18 per credit hour.

1985 Curtis School of Technical Agriculture At the November 22, 1985, MPTCCA Board meeting, a vote of 11-0 voted down a proposal to take over the Curtis School of Technical Agriculture. The discussion about the School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis continued on into 1986. Curtis stayed within the University of Nebraska system; however, MPTCCA began partnering with Curtis and delivering some additional classes to help strengthen the curricular offerings at the School. The Curtis College and McCook Community College developed a joint Golf Course Turf Management program.

1986 NCA North Central Association regional accreditation was granted to the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area (of which MCC was a part). Also, the National Dietary Manager's Association accredited the Dietary Manager's program on the MCC campus.

1986 Classroom Building At the August Board Meeting, the MPTCCA Board reviewed plans for building a two-story building for classrooms at MCC. Architects estimated that the construction project would cost about \$900,000. This building would eventually be named Walsh-Brady Hall.

1986 Area President's Message At the May 1986 MPTCCA campus graduation ceremonies, Dr. William Hasemeyer told the graduates "The march of science and technology will improve the quality of our lives,

raise hopes and expectations, offer new opportunities and bring with it hazards and disappointments.”

1986 Tuition Increase The MPTCCA Board set tuition for the 1987 academic year at \$19 per credit hour, a \$1 increase. Also, at the same meeting, Board members approved the purchase of a computerized milling machine, a move to include more high technology in the course offerings of Voc-Tech.

1987-1988 Salaries The College base salary for instructors was raised \$1,000 a year and \$300 for the second year, raising the base to \$17,100 for the 1987-1988 school year. Area President William Hasemeyer’s salary was increased to \$57,000 from \$54,900 as reported in the *McCook Daily Gazette* (24 9 1987) concerning the Board meeting. The MPCCA Board also voted to seek bids on a roofing project for the Wigwam.

1988 Tuition Tuition rates were raised to \$21 a credit hour for 1988, but the rate was still the lowest in the state. At the Board meeting (2 25 1988) it was reported that the Walsh-Brady Fund has \$871,158 in a trust and \$299,015 was generated in interest since the fund was established in 1979. \$667,283 was used in construction of Walsh-Brady Hall, while \$274,677 was used for scholarships, \$23,297 for State Student Incentive Grants, and \$27,736 was spent for computers.

1988/1989 Dr. William Hasemeyer, President of Mid-Plains Community College Area, was named as an “outstanding” community college president by his peers within the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.

1988 Board Action on Faculty Evaluation After a review of MPCCA faculty evaluation policy, the Board made an adjustment that each faculty member was to be evaluated every two years and that no evaluations were to be removed from the instructor’s file at anytime by anyone.

1988 New Bus The Board accepted the low bid of \$37,287 as low bid on a 20-passenger bus for transporting MPCC teams to athletic events.

1988 Board Review of Area Enrollment Numbers At the December 1988 meeting, Board members reviewed Area headcount enrollment numbers from the fall. It was an exceptional fall for student enrollment with a total of 3,125 full-time and part-time students.

1989 Board of Governors Dale Poore was named chair of the Mid-Plains Area Board of Governors.

1989 The Beginning of a New Program At their January meeting, the Board of Governors took the first step toward the establishment of an associate degree nursing program. The Board approved the submission of plans for the program to the state board of nursing.

1989 Public Information Director At the March 1989 Board meeting, Richard Chamberlain was hired as the first MPCCA Public Information Director. He came from Broomfield, Colorado. Chamberlain had three primary job responsibilities: public information, marketing, and developing student assistance through the Mid-Plains Foundation.

1989 Board Approves Conducting Efficiency Study The MPCCA Board of Governors agreed to join with the other five community college systems in Nebraska to fund a major efficiency study. The study was to be an objective, long-range review of the working of the technical community colleges in the state. The study would be carried out by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems.

1989 Kearney State in Transition The Nebraska Plains Alliance of Colleges (NPAC) members met in North Platte. Officials from MPCCA, Kearney State College, and North Platte High School were present at the meeting. One of the major topics of the meeting concerned the continuation of the NPAC instruction programs agreement and relationship.

1989 MPCCA Tuition The Board of Governors established new tuition rates for the 1989-1990 college year at \$22 per credit hour. Dr. Hasemeyer commented that it was still the lowest tuition cost of any of the community colleges in the state.

1989 Board Approval of Programs The MPCCA Board took formal action on program reviews for the academic transfer programs at North Platte and McCook and for the Medical Laboratory Technician program at North Platte.

1989 Board Member Resignation Jack Donelson resigned from the Board of Governors in July 1989.

1989 Board Member Appointment Rick Kolkman was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jack Donelson on the Board of Governors.

1990 Restructuring College Administration The Area Board approved a restructuring of the college administration to provide better

communication. The Board passed the measure which realigns upper management and creates new “focus groups.”

1990 Proposing a State College in North Platte Dr. Hasemeyer told the Board that it should take a “strong look” at a possible proposal to establish a state college in North Platte. This was a reference to comments made by a member of the Nebraska State College Board of Trustees. This came about after the announcement that Kearney State College was accepted into the University of Nebraska system.

October 1990 Enrollments At the October Board Meeting, the campus enrollment figures were reviewed. The McDonald-Belton campus had 948 students enrolled - 447 full-time students and 501 part-time. The Voc-Tech campus had 1,079 enrolled - 250 full-time and 829 part-time.

1990 Community Foundation Board Appointments Darrel Hildebrand, McDonald-Belton Dean of Students and Don Rockefeller, Voc-Tech Dean of Students, were appointed to the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation.

1990-1991 New Scholarships The Area Board of Governors authorized 12 new scholarships for McCook College at the January Board meeting. Board member Liz Mitchell replaced McCook Board member Dale Poore as Board chair.

1991 January New Board Members Jim Doyle and George Huebner were installed as new Board of Governors members replacing Kent Miller and Rick Kolkman.

1991 Board Establishes Guidelines for Students Involved in the Persian Gulf Conflict At their February meeting, Board members approved a set of guidelines aimed at dealing with students whose college careers were interrupted because of reservist or National Guard obligations.

1991 Tuition Increase The Board voted to increase the tuition per credit hour from \$22 to \$23. The Board also voted to move forward with plans to provide food service at McDonald-Belton and at Voc-Tech during morning and afternoon classes.

1991 March Board Considers Filling Retiring VP’s Post One of the items discussed at the March 1991 Board meeting was the timeline to fill the Vice-President position which had been occupied by Mr. Burt

Brackney. Mr. Brackney was forced to retire early by reason of health complications.

1991 Board Action on Educational Programs Board members approved two new programs, the Certified Legal Assistant program and the Accredited Record Technician Program.

1991 October Accreditation The North Central Association sent a team in October of 1991 to review the 1986-1991 study conducted through the year on the campus and was then sent to NCA. The report, co-written by Ford Craig, Janis Ridnour, and Gordon Koch, focused on instructional process, administrative support, and area unit levels.

1991 No Smoking Policy At their November meeting, Board members approved a no-smoking policy in all of the college's vehicles and buildings.

1991-1992 Faculty Pay Hike Faculty members received a four percent pay raise and a five percent increase in overload pay from \$325 a credit hour to \$341. Coaching salaries increased from \$1500 to \$1575, and club sponsorship raised to \$200 per club.

1991-1992 New Tuition Policy The Area Board of Governors approved a new policy granting resident status to non-residents whose parents or grandparents graduated from a Mid-Plains Area College. Dr. Glen Haney proposed the policy as a recruiting tool.

1992 February Staffing the Area Foundation The Area Board committed to funding staff for the Area Foundation.

1992 October NPPD Makes Donation to MPCCA Ralph Holzfastrer of Paxton donated \$2,500 to the Mid-Plains Foundation on behalf of the Nebraska Public Power District.

1992 Change in Public Information Post Rick Chamberlain resigned as Public Information Director on July 22, 1992.

1992 May MPCC Tuition Increase The MPCCA Board voted to increase tuition to \$27 per credit hour. Even with the increase this was still the lowest tuition rate for community colleges in the state.

1992 Accreditation for Seven More Years The North Central Association accreditation team issued a final exit report following their campus visit. They extended the Area accreditation for seven more years, with plans for the next complete study to be held in 1998. The Phi Theta Kappa tutoring

program, the well-cared-for facilities, community service programs, faculty and staff, and enthusiastic students were identified as being strengths. The concerns identified a need to examine the requirements for the associate of general studies degree, documentation of student performance, and more planning and organizational structure. A “focus” visit was set for 1994-1995 to examine progress in the area of planning and structure.

1992 June Mid-Plains Community College Enrollment Increase Early enrollment numbers in 1992 compared with actual fall enrollment numbers for 1991 show an anticipated enrollment increase at all three campuses.

The Board also accepted the resignation of Dr. Delores Meyer, Dean of Instruction at McCook and approved the hiring of Althea Stevens as a computer science instructor at McDonald-Belton.

1992 July Resignations and Hirings In July 1992, the Board accepted the resignation of Galen Carlyle as president of Mc-Donald-Belton and the resignation of Richard Chamberlain, Public Information Director. They also approved the hiring of Patty Birch as library specialist and of Gil Rocha as art instructor at McDonald-Belton. Thomas Meyer was approved for the economics/business administration position at McCook.

1992 Auto Body Shop The Board of Governors awarded a contract for the construction of the auto body shop to General Constructors of North Platte.

1992 December A New President The Area Board approved the hiring of William A. Griffin as the new President of McDonald-Belton.

1993 Mid-Plains Community College Area Board The Board of Governors in January 1993 were Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Chairperson; Leonard Farrell; Louie Stithem; Dale Poore; George Huebner; Lemoine Carmichael; Jim Doyle; Jane Hornung; Alan Hirschfeld; Kent Miller; and Max Hanson.

1993-94 Tuition Increase At their March 1993 meeting, the Board of Governors increased the student tuition to \$28 per semester credit hour.

1993 Area Chancellor’s Retirement Date: On September 22, 1993, Area Chancellor Dr. William Hasemeyer, announced his retirement effective June 30,1994. He was appointed the leader of the Mid-Plains Community College Area in 1974. On September 29, 1993, the editor

of the *Telegraph* wrote, “Bill Hasemeyer’s legacy is that he brought the area together and made it work. It didn’t always work perfectly, but what might have been perpetual civil war turned gradually into the acceptance of reality, and at times, a true spirit of cooperation.”

1993 Program Elimination On November 10, 1993, the Board of Governors voted to eliminate the Optometric Assistant Program at the end of the program year.

1993 Jerda Garey Resigns At their November 1993 meeting, the Board of Governors accepted Jerda Garey’s resignation as the Dean of Community Services at MCC. Dr. Garey accepted a position as the Executive Director of the Iowa Vocational Council.

1993 Program Eliminated The MPCCA Board voted to eliminate the farm and ranch program at MCC due low student enrollments.

1994 Bid Equipment for Distance Learning Classroom The Board approved the purchase of the equipment on February 23, 1994.

1994 Math and Science Building Study On March 23, 1994, a committee began work on the feasibility of a math/science building on the McDonald-Belton Campus.

1994 Area and Distance Hardware and Software Compatibility Study On March 23, 1994, Alice Billesbach was assigned the task of studying computer hardware and software for the area and distance that existed and to determine the degree to which there was compatibility.

1994 March Foundation Fund Drive The Mid-Plains Community College Foundation ended its first-ever fund drive. The two largest contributions were \$6,000 from the McDonald-Belton campus faculty and \$5,000 from the Voc-Tech nursing program’s donation which was money from a will.

1994 Chancellor Position The number of applicants for the soon-to-be-vacant chancellor position was narrowed from 61 to four. The final four were to be brought in individually for personal interviews.

June 8, 1994 New Chancellor Greg Fitch was selected as the new chancellor.

June 22, 1994 Dr. Fitch Dr. Fitch would become the new chancellor September 1, 1994, at a salary of \$88,000 per year. During the span between the retirement of Dr. Hasemeyer on June 30, 1994, and the arrival

of Dr. Fitch September 1, 1994, Dr. Ford Craig, Operations Officer for the Mid-Plains Area, acted as liaison between Fitch and the Board.

July 1994 Tuition Increase The Board voted to increase the tuition \$2 per credit hour to \$30 per credit hour.

1994 Honor for Public Information Director Greg Fritz was notified that he was the winner of two NCMPR (National Council for Marketing and Public Relations) advertising awards. Public information directors from five states submitted entries for the competition.

1994 August Board Approves Budget The Area Board approved the budget. The Board also heard a report that computer class attendance at Voc-Tech was 394 students and that the Voc-Tech surplus auction cleared approximately \$10,000.

1994 August The Board approved the hiring of Kathy Wollam as assistant librarian at McCook Community College and the hiring of Marsha Hall McMann and Christina Reece to be adjunct employees while the Director of Library position was advertised. The Board also accepted the resignation of Jerry Boyer at McCook Community College.

1994 Chancellor Emeritus The Area Board named Dr. William Hasemeyer Chancellor Emeritus.

1994 August Water Problems At the October Board meeting, the Board agreed to ask the City of North Platte to connect the McDonald-Belton Campus to the city water system. The Board also approved hiring Kent Beel as a full-time instructor for the Voc-Tech Campus.

1995 Report from Accounting Firm In its report to the MPCCA Board, the Coopers and Lybrand Accounting Firm recommended a review of the overall organization of MPCCA, improved supervision of central office personnel, initiating the practice of internal audits, and the hiring of a full-time human resource director.

1995 Board Accepts Second Phase of Cooper and Lybrand Report The second phase of the report recommended that MPCCA needed to standardize its computer equipment and link its three campuses in a network to take advantage of technology for tracking student information.

Unusual and Notable

1984 Old Federal Building Ownership Finally Transferred In a letter from the United States Department of Education dated October

17, 1984, the former federal building and .4 acres of land which had been transferred by Quitclaim Deed, dated June 17, 1964, to the College was now officially owned by the College (except in the event of a national emergency). All of the restrictions and requirements involved in the transfer had been met satisfactorily.

1985 Foundation Formation The Mid-Plains Community College Area Foundation was approved May 22, 1985, along with the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.

1987 Community College Month Mayor of North Platte, Jim Kirkman, proclaimed February as Community College Month. The Mayor signed a proclamation recognizing two-year institutions as partners with local businesses and industries and as providers of training and retraining for employees.

1993 MPCC Foundation Drive Foundation Director Chuck Schwartz and other administrators organized a \$50,000.00 fund drive during the 1993-94 academic year. Former graduates of MPCC (McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech) who helped with the drive were John Cox, Rick Odean, Chuck Schwartz, Randy McCarty, and Doug Fisher.

1995 NCA Focused Visit A two person NCA Focused Visit Team examined the MPTCCA colleges in April of 1995. They were satisfied with the progress made on matters of student assessment, organization of Area-wide councils and committees, hiring a human resources director, and the initiation of a strategic plan.

MCCOOK COMMUNITY COLLEGE: 1984-1994

Administration and Faculty

Dr. Harold Deselms and Dr. Robert Smallfoot served as presidents during this time. Other administrators included Dr. Glenn Haney - Dean of Students and then Dean of Institutional Enhancement; Dr. Allen Millar followed by Dr. Delores Meyer who in turn was followed by Dr. John Rucker - Dean of Instructional Services, Dr. Jo Keeler - Dean of Student Services and then Dean of Community Services; Dr. Jerda Garey - Dean of Community Services, Ted Fellers - Director of Financial Aid, and Brad Lynch - Associate Dean of Students.

Full-time faculty were Kent Been, Robert Christie, Ford Craig, Don Dernovich, Richard Driml, Ted Fellers, Jerda Garey, James Garretson, Jim Hall, Dr. Glen Haney, Judi Haney, Elizabeth Benjamin, Dr. Jo Keeler,

Steve Long, Lyle Moskal, Irple Ruby, Lynn Salyer, Roger Shield, Jim Steward, Roger Toomey, Janet Weber, Roger Wilson, Trace Bevel, Jerry Boyer, Kathy Dernovich, Charlie Gregory, Rod Horst, Elizabeth Larson, Rick Michaelsen, Shari Olson, Ron Schoneberg, Susan Watts, Tyler Esch, Rick Nikumen, Leila Hoyt, and Thomas Meyer.

Faculty Honored

1984-1985 Don Dernovich *Don Dernovich's painting "Winter Wood" was selected for the 64th Annual National Watercolor Society Exhibition at the Brea Civic Cultural Gallery in Los Angeles, California. He also was selected the Phi Theta Kappa Educator of the Year for 1984-1985. Don Dernovich achieved American Watercolor Society recognition.*



1984-1985 Dr. Jo Keeler *For 1984-1985, Dr. Jo Keeler was elected secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska ACT Council; also, Dr. Jo Keeler was named McCook Business and Professional Women's Woman of the Year.*

1985-1986 Faculty Honors *Elizabeth Jasnoch was named the Outstanding Young Careerist by the Business and Professional Women's Association.*

1985-1986 Poetry *Ford Craig was the author of a poem, "Republican Valley Dawn," in the fall issue of a publication for the Nebraska Council of Teachers of English.*

1986 Glenda Baker *Music instructor Glenda Baker had one of the leads in the community production of Oklahoma.*

1986 Stan Garretson *Stan and Ellen Garretson represented MCC at the 1986 Nebraska Army National Guard Military Ball.*

1986 Jerda Garey *In 1986, Jerda Garey was named to the Commission on Community and Junior College Program for the American Home Economics Association. She later served as president of the Community College Section of that organization and as president of the Nebraska Home Economics Association.*

1986-1987 Faculty Honors *Ford Craig, English instructor, was awarded the World of Poetry 1986 Silver Poet Award. Jerda Garey was named Nebraska Home Economics Teacher of the Year and Outstanding Nebraska Vocational Teacher of the Year. Dr. Jo Keeler was named "Person of the Year" by the Council on Community Services and Continuing Education. Kay Flaska was named the "Outstanding Adult Basic Education Teacher of the Year."*

1987-1988 Kenneth Kimball Award *Kathy Dernovich received the Kenneth Kimball Award for her role with the EMS system by the State Health Department.*

1987-1988 Educator of the Year *Instructor Jerda Garey was named the Phi Theta Kappa Educator of the Year at the 1988 commencement.*

1987 Poetry *English instructor Ford Craig received the Golden Poet Award in 1987 for his work, "In This Season."*

1988 Jim Steward *In 1988, Jim Steward won the Turkey of the Year contest sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa.*

1989 Painting *Don Dernovich's painting "the Pulley" was judged Best of Show in the Prairie Light Arts Showcase Juried Exhibition at the Museum of Nebraska Art.*

1989 Outstanding Faculty *Stan Garretson 1989 was named Phi Theta Kappa Outstanding Instructor.*

1990-1991 Lab Manual Author, Outstanding Educator *Jim Garretson, MCC science instructor authored a science lab manual, titled, Laboratory Studies in the Physical Sciences. It was published by the William C. Brown Publishing Company. Mr. Garretson was also named the Phi Theta Kappa Outstanding Educator for 1990-1991 at the MCC commencement.*

1990-1991 MCC Instructor Visits Eastern Europe *Kent Been, MCC agriculture instructor was one of 30 Nebraskans who participated in the Nebraska LEAD Program trip to Eastern Europe. The three-week trip included visiting farms and studying agriculture in Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Austria.*

1991-1992 BEST Recognition *Janet Weber, college business instructor, was one of 18 people recognized as Business Education's 'BEST' in Nebraska at the Nebraska Department of Education's Vocational Conference held in Omaha. She also was named the Nebraska State Business Educators Association's "Outstanding Postsecondary Business Education Teacher" award.*

1991-1992 Faculty Recognition at Commencement *Jim Hall was named the Phi Theta Kappa "Outstanding Educator." The speaker was Lawrence Frazier, 1957 graduate and CEO and President of Farmers Mutual of Nebraska. Special recognition was given to Lyle Moskal who retired after 29 years of service as economics and business instructor.*

1992 Outstanding Post-Secondary Business Education Teacher *Janet Weber was recognized as an outstanding post-secondary business education teacher.*

1992-1993 MCC Instructor in National Magazine *MCC artist and instructor Don Dernovich was featured in a story in the October issue of American Artist. The article discussed Dernovich's techniques of painting water and objects submerged in the water and painting realistic air bubbles.*

1992-1993 MCC Librarian Elected *MCC librarian Irple Ruby was selected by the Nebraska Library Association as a section officer as vice-chair with the College and University Section for 1992-1993.*

1992-1993 Kent Been Honored *Kent Been, agriculture instructor, was named the Outstanding Nebraska Agriculture Education Teacher and was recognized at the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.*

1993 Phi Theta Kappa Outstanding Instructor *Jerry Boyer was named the 1993 outstanding educator by Phi Theta Kappa at the 1993 commencement. Scott Carpenter, 1969 MCC graduate, was the speaker for the annual commencement.*

1993 NISOD Recipients During This Time *Elizabeth Benjamin and Jerda Garey were NISOD award recipients.*

1994 Best Award *Janet Weber at MCC was a BEST award winner from the Business Education Department of Nebraska Department of Education.*

Other Faculty History for the Period

1986-1987 New English Teacher Rod Horst was hired for the new English position.

1986-1987 MCC President Four candidates for the McCook Community College presidency were interviewed on June 5. A faculty evaluation system was initiated. Dr. Allen Miller served as the acting president during the interim after Dr. Deselmes resigned and prior to the hiring of Dr. Robert Smallfoot.

1987-1988 New Faculty Two new faculty members were Richard Nikunen, men's basketball and golf coach, psychology and physical education instructor, and Rodney Horst, English and speech instructor. Mr. Nikunen filled the vacancy created by the resignation of John Jergensen. Kathy Schroeder began work as the Community Service Assistant Coordinator and Adult Basic Education Volunteer Coordinator.

1987-1988 Chamber Director Judi Haney completed her membership on the Chamber of Commerce Board.

1987-1988 New Business Instructor Ron Schoneberg was hired as a new business instructor.

1987-1988 Chamber Director President Bob Smallfoot was named Chamber Director for the McCook Chamber of Commerce.

1988 New instructors were Charles Gregory heading up the Farm and Ranch Management Program, and Del Jeanee Mathews for vocal music. Other staff changes included the promotion of Ken Bollerup to Director of Physical Plant, taking over for Bob Cox who retired. Other changes included Cleo Clements for custodial, Robert Meyers for security, and Margaret Stoeger as a new secretary of Student Services.

1988 New Dean Dr. Galyn Carlile was hired to replace Dr. Allen Millar as Dean of Instruction.

1988 Presidential Initiatives College President Robert Smallfoot began the “Super Student Helper Awards” along with the “Employee of the Month Awards.” President Smallfoot also began to meet with leaders of the various student groups.

1989 Administrative Change Brad Lynch was named Associate Dean of Student Services, and Dr. Glenn Haney was Dean of Student Services.

1989 Administrative Change Dr. Jo Keeler became the full-time Community Services Coordinator.

1989 A.B.E. Candy Crosby was named the new volunteer coordinator for the Adult Basic Education program.

1989 Community Band Dick Driml again directed the community band for concerts in the park.

1989 Steve Long Steve Long, criminal justice and sociology instructor, was elected a director of the Great Plains Sociological Association.

1989 New Administrative Position A new administrative position was approved for McCook Community College at the February 1990 meeting. Under the approved administrative changes, the current Dean of Student Service’s duties were divided into two positions, Dean of Student Services and Dean of Institutional Enhancement. The proposal moved Dr. Glenn Haney from Dean of Student Services to Dean of Institutional Enhancement, Dr. Jo Keeler from Dean of Community Services to Dean of Student Services and Jerda Garey to Dean of Community Services.

1990-1991 New Faculty New Instructors Gary Nelson, Criminal Justice, and Sue Watts, English, were hired as new faculty.

1990-1991 Athletic Director Resigned Bob Christie resigned as athletic director after serving 14 years in the position. He stated, "Fourteen years is a long time. It was becoming more difficult to do everything I wanted to do." *McCook Daily Gazette*, 23 3 1991 1. Rick Nickunen, men's basketball and golf coach and psychology instructor, was named athletic director to begin the fall semester of 1991. A special roast honoring Mr. Christie was held on April 20 at the annual Athletic Banquet. Mr. Nickunen resigned during the summer to take a new coaching position.

1990-1991 Dr. Galyn Carlile Dr. Galyn Carlile, Dean of Instruction was named vice-president of the McDonald-Belton Campus in North Platte.

1991-1992 New Dean and Faculty Members Dr. Delores Meyer was named the new Dean of Instruction. Other new instructors were Jerry Boyer, criminal justice and sociology; Trace Bevell, psychology; and Tyler Esch, Bright Beginnings and Home Economics. Rick Michaelsen was named the new counselor and Roger Shield was appointed new Athletic Director. Dr. Meyer resigned at the end of the school year.

1991-1992 New Coaches Trace Bevell, an assistant basketball coach at South Dakota State University, was chosen head men's basketball and head golf coach. Amy Randel, a Chadron State graduate and former MCC student, was hired as the new MCC volleyball coach.

1991-1992 Kiwanis Officers MCC staff serving as officers were Elizabeth Benjamin, president; Jerda Garey, president-elect; and Liz Larson, treasurer. On November 17, 1993, Dr. Jerda Garey submitted her resignation to accept the position as Executive Director of the Iowa Vocational Council.

1992-1993 Administrative Leaders Jerda Garey, MCC Dean of Community Services was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce. MCC President Robert Smallfoot conducted the goal- setting session for the new chamber members. Mrs. Garey also served as president of the McCook Kiwanis Club during the year.

1992-1993 New Faculty and Staff Members Thomas Meyer replaced Lyle Moskal as business/economics instructor, and Mike Hartwell became director of the physical plant. Other new staff members included Mike Bartline, dorm director; Lark Grooms, student services; Sheila Snyder, business office receptionist; Deb Martin, financial aid; Peggy

Unger, president's office; Lynda Blake, Child Development Center teacher; Geraldine Brown, part-time library assistant; Cindy Harris, cafeteria; Terri Haywood, student union; Charlie Morris, dorm security; Ernie Sheets, dorm security; Paul Younger, custodian; and Bethine Vontz, dorm custodian. Later in the year Lana Linnemeyer joined the staff in the Community Services office.

1992 New Dean Hired Dr. John A. Rucker of Palos Hills, Illinois, replaced Dr. Delores Meyer as Dean of Instruction at the November 19, 1992, Area Board of Governor's meeting.

1993-1994 Dean of Community Services Dr. Gaylon R. Dahn was appointed Dean of Community Services. Charlie Gregory had served as interim dean following previous deans, Dr. Glenn Haney and Dr. Jerda Garey.

Student Affairs and Activities

1984-1985 Student Newspaper The McCook Community College student newspaper was judged a first-class newspaper by the Associated College Press. The College was without a newspaper for several years before *The Indian* was organized in October. Staff included Brad Fuqua, Kerry Hullet, Anne Peister, Betty Ciemnoczolowski, and Brad Kaelin. The advisor was Randy Hascall.

1984-1985 Phi Beta Lambda award winners at the state leadership conference were Jill Davis-Haussler, LaDonna Braman, Michelle Farrar, Anne Davis, and Liz Weiss.

1985 Fire Problem? A problem on campus during this time was pranksters pulling the fire alarms in the dormitory.

1985 New Cheerleaders In 1985, cheerleaders were elected. This action renewed a tradition that had been discontinued.



College Cheer Crew

McCook Community College's cheerleaders have been practicing as diligently as the school's basketball and wrestling teams for the start of the winter sports season. The five cheerleaders were selected through a process of try-outs from a group of 16 MCC coeds. They include: (top to bottom, left to right) Pam Clapp, McCook; Deb Snowden, McCook; Mick

Brooks, Bartley; Vicki Siverly, McCook; Kim Sitzman, Culbertson, mascot, and Jeanne Sitzman, Culbertson, head cheerleader. Fans will have a chance to see the girls in action Nov. 30 when the Indians cage squad entertains Northeastern of Norfolk in the first home game. (Gazette photo)

1986 Annual Fashion Show "Fashion Beat" was the theme of the 1986 annual fashion show. Stacy Cannon was the instructor, and student directors were Dee Dee Harsh, Lori McNutt, Kay Strasburg, and Tricia Sheets.

1985-1986 Elderhostel Area citizens who helped with the Elderhostel were Marie Upton, Ray Search, Connie Chrisman, Darlene Brooks,

Ralph Miller, Marilyn Miller, Lynn Wallen, Alice Wallen, Art Carmody, Joyce Hershberger, Don Thompson, Junior Sramek, and Rene Creasman.

1985-1986 Kaleidoscope of Color Kaleidoscope of Color was the theme of the fashion merchandising fall fashion show that featured 17 retail stores, 35 models, and entertainment by the College Jazz Ensemble and college singing group Pazazz. Patty Knepper, Lori McNutt, and Brenda Lines were student coordinators.

1985-1986 Student Senate Student Senate members were Rita Ediger, Sharon Leibrandt, Lori Liesemeyer, Amy Wiemers, Rhonda Utesch, Nancy Seifer, Stacy Brooks, Connie Dack, Lihn Dang, Kristi Kramer, Angie Rowland, Scott Garey, Kirk Jones, Scott Farwell, Ann Simon, Patty Knepper, Jennifer Graber, Tasha Hileman, Doug Sullivan, Tom Carpenter, Tim Monson, Paul Liess, Kirk Mason, and Ronalee Tietze. Sponsor was Jim Hall.



1985-1986 Halloween Dance The costume Halloween Dance was again a success. The evening began with horror movies shown in the student union.

1985-1986 Homecoming Royalty Larry Newcomb and Anne Davis reigned as Homecoming royalty.

1985-1986 Phi Theta Kappa Kirk Mason, Doug Sullivan, Jan Koetter, Carrie Fogle, and Brad Fuqua attended the regional conference in Omaha. 1985-1986 officers were Jan Koetter, Carrie Corey, Sandra Shaneyfelt, Kirk Mason, and Doug Sullivan. Carrie Corey died October 27, 1985, as a result of a vehicle accident.

1985-1986 Student Education Association of Nebraska The Student Education Association of Nebraska 1985-1986 McCook officers were Kyle Shubert, Dawn Smock, Susan Moon, and Jan Koetter. Jim Garretson was sponsor of the group.

1985-1986 Mock Disaster Event Students from the Ag Club and Home Economics Club were “victims” in a mock disaster drill guided by the City of McCook EMS/EMT personnel.



1985-1986 PTK Ambassadors PTK Ambassadors included Brad Fuqua, Kirk Mason, Teri Mason, Jennifer Graer, Jan Koetter, Carrie Fogle, and Doug Sullivan. Ambassadors served as tour guides for new students and

groups visiting campus and conducted an “Off To College Workshop” for 150 students from 14 schools.

1985-1986 Phi Beta Lambda Phi Beta Lambda officers were Liz Weiss, Twila Borges, Barb Hampton, Kent Waltemath, Gloria Bresecker, and KyAnna Brown.

1985-1986 Home Economics Club Home Economics Club officers were Patty Knepper, Brenda Lines, Brenda Smith, Ronalee Tietze, Becky Knapp, and Missy Krizek.

Special Student Activities of 1985 and 1986

Music Events Under the direction of Dick Driml, the MCC Jazz Ensemble performed in annual Christmas and Spring concerts, went on tour, and also played at all basketball and volleyball games. In 1986, the Jazz Ensemble traveled to England and played for a number of non-profit organizations; they also played a live radio broadcast in Cornwall. The annual Spaghetti Dinner and Show produced by the Home Economics Club and the music department served as a fundraiser.



Popular Student Trips in the Mid-1980's Students had opportunities to go on annual Vocational Clubs Tours to major cities for career information. Another popular trip for students was the annual canoe trip on the Niobrara River in late spring. Students on the canoe trip often

encountered everything from snow to sunburn. Learning how to camp overnight at Smith Falls and doing portage at Rocky Ford were challenges.

Dance Marathons Mid-1980's The dance marathons for Muscular Dystrophy generated much student interest. The first ones, sponsored by Circle K, went from Friday evening through Saturday - ending at midnight. Eating goldfish and participating in specialty contests added interest throughout the event. Eventually, the dance was held all day on Saturday, leaving the overnight experience as past history.

1986 Band Day The annual band day hosted by the college had 20 bands participating.

1986 Student Senate Student Senate members were Ann Simon, Tom Carpenter, Kristi Kramer, Kay Strasburg, Robby Hrnchir, Darin Seligman, Billie Jo Sandman, Lori Jumps, Pamela Jones, Angie Keen, Janice Colling, Casey Drake, Missy Krizek, Sarah Hawkins, and Kirk Jones.

1986 Student Leaders Noteworthy students for the year were Dee Dee Harsh, Cindy Monnahan, Dee Doyle, Marty Kasl, and Angie Janssen. Nancy Seifer served as president of the Criminal Justice Club.

1986-1987 Indian Press Award The *Indian* received another First Class rating from the Associated Press for the second semester of the 1986-1987 school year. Staff members responsible for the award were Joan Carson, Amy Nelson, Kevin League, Steve Croutcher, and Nicole Vap. Advisor was Bruce Crosby.

1986-1987 Summer Band A summer community-based band was formed with Richard Driml as director.

1986-1987 Miss Southwest and Miss Republican Valley Scholarship Pageant MCC students who participated in the Miss Southwest and Miss Republican Valley scholarship pageant were Dee Dee Harsh, Mary Corey, and Nicole Vap. Nicole Vap was named Miss Republican Valley and participated in the Miss Nebraska Pageant.

1986-1987 The Indian Staff The *Indian* staff were Todd Case, Glenda Ellerton, Jerry Giedd, Carrie Koetter, Sharon Kennedy, Kevin League, Amy Nelson, and Pam Svoboda. Bruce Crosby was the advisor.

1986-1987 Home Economics Club Home Economics Club officers were Tricia Sheets, Janice Colling, Missy Krizek, Nancy Monzon, and Kay Strasburg.

1986-1987 Phi Theta Kappa Officers Phi Theta Kappa officers were Jennifer Graber, Carrie Fogle, Tori Horton, Robbie Hrnchir, and Brian Hahle.

1986-1987 Phi Beta Lambda Officers PBL Officers were Patti Konecne, Rose Dow, Betty Wolford, Kirk Jones, Stacy Coe, and Keith Pick.

1986-1987 “Rowdy Rooter” T-shirts The student senate sold “Rowdy Rooter” T-shirts at all home games.

1986-1987 Homecoming Royalty Homecoming royalty were Ann Simon, Tom Carpenter, Sean Fries, Yvonne Peil, Ronnell Davis, and Sheila Blake. Other candidates were Joan Meister, Connie Dack, Juleen Stegman, Gary Klassen. Marnix van Wijk, and Shawn Jones.

1986-1987 Cheerleaders Cheerleaders were Kay Strasburg, Laura Fraser, Susan Houser, and Lisa Tuller. Irple Ruby sponsored the group.

1986-1987 Mock Disaster Drill College students acted as victims in a mock disaster drill which emulated a plane crash for an eight-passenger plane. Students were given special instructions for each role, and several were transported to Community Hospital.

1987-1988 Paint-In The Annual Art Paint-in, Inter-High contest, and Home Economics Fair events were events held during the spring semester of 1988.



1987-1988 European Field Trip Nine Students in Mary DeVries' English class saw literature come to life during their nine day trip in Europe.

1987-1988 Band Day Twenty-two area bands participated in the McCook Community College Band Day on September 26. Culbertson High School won the sweepstakes award.

1987-1988 Phi Beta Lambda Phi Beta Lambda officers were Stacy Coe, Janella Duffield, Chris Sughroue, Donna Hyke, Jerrie Brown, and Michelle Randel.

1987-1988 Phi Beta Lambda State Event Janella Duffield was elected Phi Beta Lambda state vice-president and Sharland Malleck state financial vice-president. McCook Community College was the only college receiving the Excellence Award. Janet Weber sponsored students at the state event.

1987-1988 PTK PTK officers were Dee Doyle, Marty Kasl, Angie Janssen, Sue Sorenson, Vicki Chance, and Todd Case.

1987-1988 The Goat Award Bob Christie had the dubious honor of winning the Phi Theta Kappa's goat which was tied on his lawn as the result of a fundraiser by the organization.

1987-1988 Homecoming Royalty Homecoming royalty were Brandy Herrick, Fred Hosick, Fred Rodriquez, Angie Earnest, James Polk, Stacy Coe, and Dave Long.

1987-1988 Indian Newspaper staff were Deb Anderson, Veronica Caton, John Pickett, Patricia Riley, and Bill Thieben.

1987-1988 Home Economics Club 1987-1988 Home Economics Club officers were Dee Dee Harsh, Cindy Monnahan, Sharon Wondra, Teresa Evans, and Angela Hanson. The sponsor was Liz Larson. The annual fashion show was held October 12 at the Chief Motel poolside, and the fashion merchandising class also presented a show for the Brass Buckle at the McCook High School auditorium. Students assisting were Lynette Swanson, Tammy Lenz, Jennifer Foster, Terri Dack, Dee Dee Harsh, Karmen Smith, and LuAnn Evans.

1987-1988 Phi Theta Kappa The annual Phi Theta Kappa Art Show featured 63 art works from six states. Since 1983, two works of art have been purchased at the show as a part of a permanent exhibit on campus by the McCook College Foundation and Phi Theta Kappa. Vicki Hiser, assisted by art instructor Don Dernovich, was in charge of the show.

1987-1988 Annual Spaghetti Supper and Variety Show The annual spaghetti supper and variety show sponsored by the home economics department and music department was held on February 26 to a full house.

1988 Circle K Circle K Club students who attended the Circle K International Convention in Orlando, Florida, were Sherri Clark, Linda Braman, Shannon Schultz, Barb Axtell, Sheila Jackson, and Brenda Dodds. Instructor Elizabeth Jasnoch was the sponsor of the group. Circle K officers for the year were Brenda Dodds, Shari Clark, Shannon Schultz, Norma Reitz, Linda Braman, and Kendra Unger.

1988 Student Club Officers In 1988, Janella Duffield was named state vice president of Phi Theta Kappa, and Sherri Clark was president of Circle K.

1988 Inter-High Day This event brought 486 students from 30 area high schools to campus.

1988 Home Economics Event The Nebraska State Home Economics Fall Workshop was held on campus November 6 and 7 of 1988.

1988 Phi Beta Lambda PBL officers were Janella Duffield, Joe Farwell, Linda Goodenberger, Shar Mallek, Linda Knepper, and Tonya Peterson.

1988 Phi Theta Kappa Phi Theta Kappa officers were Todd Drake, Lynne Langdon, Sharla Roschewski, Jennifer Yarberrry, and Brenda Dodds.

1988 David Rothmeyer Student David Rothmeyer was killed in a car crash on September 14, 1988.

1988 Phi Theta Kappa Phi Theta Kappa initiates were Jane Bredvick, Kevin Buxton, Richard Doss, Danna Fahnholz, Dean Franke, Patsy Fuller, Shari Haag, Amy Hartman, Carrie Henry, Brenda Kronik, Jon Mercer, Desree Pettera, John Pick, Vivian Redfern, Mary Rittenhouse, Kindi Schwarz, Andrew Schweitzer, Sharlee Teel, Debra Tinkham, Shaunna Wach, Sue Wilkinson, Shane Wright, Angie Young, Joyce Blain, Tom Bredvick, Tami Brown, Charlene Brusoe, William Brush, Kathy Fisher, Vicki Hinz, Aloha Kier, Bette Martin, Judy Newcomb, Sherri Ruf, Sheryl Ruggles, and Charlene Springer. Sponsors were Jo Keeler and Ford Craig.

1988 MCC Royalty MCC royalty were King Jack Ryan and Queen Ali Goodale. Attendants were Rob Polk, Mindy Smolczyk, Cindy Nelson, and Brian Foster. Finalists were Sheely Gerdes, Heather Hughes, Deb Macke, Darrin Samway, Jamie Thieben, and Matt Wiemers.

1988 Absolute Brass'n Company Music students who were members of Absolute Brass'n Company earned \$18,000 to finance a 10-day tour of England where they raised money for charities doing concerts and benefits. Dick Driml was director of the group.

1988 Girl Scouts A Girl Scout Chapter was formed on campus making it the only Chapter in the state. It was a collegiate club for those who had been Girl Scout members in their youth. Chapter leaders included Brenda Wilson, Belinda Norma, Shelly Schultz, and Rebecca Trenhalle. Glenn Haney was the faculty advisor.

1989 Home Economics Club Home Economics Club officers were Brenda Hronik, Mary Brenan, Staci Salmen, and Loretta Randel.

1989 Circle K Circle K officers were Cheryle Gillen, Jeff Wells, Shannon Schultz, Derek Andrews, Bridgett Schlieker, Darrell Goldenstein, and Laura Huffman.

1989 Student Senate Members Student senate members were Laura Langden, Vicki Hinz, Kerri Kramer, Missy Battershell, Pat Weskamp, Chanin Huegel, Sonja Williams, Carla Thieben, Konnie Kuhlen, Mary Ann Rittenhouse, John Pick, Brenda Hronik, Kim Lortz, Chris Anderson, Bill Clabaugh, Monica Marshall, Anthony Stark, and Christie Guthrie. Jim Hall was sponsor.

1989 PTK PTK officers were Mary Rittenhouse, Jodi Chapin, Shawna Wack, and John Pick.

1989 Bands Seventeen area bands were scheduled for the annual Band Day, and 20 bands actually participated.

1989 Absolute Brass'n Company The Absolute Brass'n Company and Showtime Choir presented a fall concert.

1989 Circle K Circle K helped sponsor the community "Coat Closet."

1989 Ag Club Fruit The MCC Ag Club sold fruit as a fund raiser.

1989 Holiday Home Tour McCook Community College and the George Norris Committee sponsored a Holiday Home Tour.

1989 Toys for Tots Art students decorated the containers for the Toys for Tots campaign as a continuing project for the art department.

1989 Christmas The Christmas Concert included the College band and show choir, along with the Hayes Center adult choir and the senior center Jolly Music Makers.

1989-1990 Phi Theta Kappa PTK initiates were Cindy Anderson, Delynn Hinkley, Cynthia Harris, Laura Lundegdon, Sandy Cory, Becky Ayers, Karl Siebuhr, Myrna Haag, Susie Martin, Tammy Needham, Kera Unger, Larry Kinne, Colleen Johnson, Duane Hronik, and Neil Lisek.

1989 Fashion Show “Formally Invited” was the theme of the McCook Community College Fashion Show Production Class’s annual fashion show held at the Chief Motel poolside.

1989 MCC Royalty Monica Marshall and Jeff Heidt were named homecoming queen and king. Attendants were Lynn Overton, Angela Blake, John Pick and Michelle Horst. Other candidates were Melanie Finley, Mary Griffen, Angela Young, Hector Diaz, Mark Grove, and Leil Lisek.

1989-1990 Circle K Circle K elected officers to serve the 1990-1991 school year at their March meeting. Those elected were Bridgett Schlieker, Laura Sukraw, Delilah Newport, Shane Martin, and the Division Lt. Governor was Laura Huffman. At the spring state convention they received first place for their outstanding project which was the Coat Closet.

1990-1991 Trophy Question The Student Services Council faced a major question and dilemma when presented with the suggestion that the trophy cases be removed and the trophies be stored in the basement. However, a survey of students indicated they were not responsive to the idea stating that the trophies were the glorious past of athletic achievement, a worthy honor to the college and therefore should be retained. [Editor’s Note: In an interview with Michele Gill, Area Student Services Dean, she reported that all trophies have been cataloged and are in storage awaiting construction of the new events center on campus where they will again be displayed.] (Interview with Michele Gill on May 25, 2010).

1990-1991 PBL Officers New officers of PBL include Michele Walters, Jacque Case, Linda Dempewolf, Susanne Bristol, Andy Hogeland, Shane Martin, John Bacon, Bill Witt, and Randy Bunner.

1990-1991 Criminal Justice Club Officers Officers of the Criminal Justice Club were Dale Fahnoltz, Debbon McConnell, and Shane Messersmith. Advisor was Gary Nelson.

1990-1991 MCC Ambassadors Members of the MCC Ambassadors were Mohamed Khamouna, Julie McShannon, Colleen Johnson, Shane Messersmith, Andy Hogeland, Chris Newberry, Sherilyn Messersmith, Melissa Battershell, Kathy Trosper, Kendra Pomplun, Loretta Randel, Keri O'Donnell, Pat Weskamp, Randy Bunner, Shane Martin, Sue Hagemann, and Deana Fox. They were sponsored by Brad Lynch. One of their major activities was providing campus tours.

1990-1991 PTK Tutoring began in 1976 as a response to the request and concern of the coaches to help MCC athletes with their studies; the tutoring program developed into a permanent feature of MCC. Thirty-one PTK members provided a "peer-tutoring system," and students met regularly to discuss methodology and to assist students in developing good study habits. Judi Haney served as supervisor of the program which receives financial compensation for the PTK.

1990-1991 Student Senate Aaron Vap was elected president of the Student Senate.

1990-1991 Homecoming Candidates Candidates for homecoming royalty were Rod Caine, Kristie Guthrie, Shannon Meyer, Kerri Kramer, Loretta Randel, Jennifer Cappel, Bradley Friehe, Julie Frerichs, Lance Creech, Mark Kool and Hector Diaz. Loretta Randel and Lance Creech were named King and Queen.



1990-1991 Forensic Team Four members of the McCook Community College Forensics Team received third place at a competition at Northeast Community College's Hawk Invitational Individual Events tournament. Members participating were Sam Richards, Becci Ten-Bensel, John Bacon and Tracy Jonas. They were coached by Sue Watts.

1990-1991 Student Phi Theta Kappa Winner Sister Bernadette Fossen, candidate for Phi Theta Kappa National President, was awarded the Orłowski Candidate award at the 73rd annual Phi Theta Kappa convention held in Chicago. She was selected by fellow candidates and was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a senior institution.

1990-1991 Mousetrap MCC and the South West Nebraska Community-Theater Association jointly produced and presented the Agatha Christie murder mystery, *Mousetrap* on April 18 and 19 in the Weeth Mini-Theater. A dinner theater presentation was held at the Chief Restaurant on April 20 and then the play was presented at the Star Theater in Curtis. MCC students participating were Becci ten-Bensel, Cheryl Scott, Sam Richards, and Tracy Jonas.

1990-1991 Phi Beta Lambda Contest Success Donna DeOss took first place in the accounting contest at the state leadership conference and represented Nebraska at the national event in California. Other contest participants from MCC included Jana Latimer, Jacque Case, and Sherri Walters.

1990-1991 Coat Closet The 10th annual Coat Closet was held November 9-10. Members of Circle K coordinated the event which provided donated winter clothing to those in need. Elizabeth Benjamin and Jerda Garey were Circle K sponsors.

1991-1992 Grease and Fools The musical *Grease* was performed by the MCC Players and the Southwest Nebraska Community Theater Association members. Tryouts were held in August and the musical was performed six nights, beginning October 24. Director was Sue Watts and the vocal director was Becky Burns. Cast members included Krissy Hanssen, Brian Cole, Tracey Welch, Cheryl Scott, Katie Fox, Jeannette Frick, Sam Richards, Jerry Walker, Tiny Thurin, Kavin Latimer, Nikki Irvin, Maylis Poulot-Cazajous, Cecily Lynch, Bryan Thomas, Cari Huges, Denise Strasser, Shelley Ryle, Denise Breazier, Mindi Lemberg, Michelle Frick, Sherilyn Messersmith, and Lydia Leibrandt. Band members were Kim Graner, Denise Breazier, John Reiners and Damon Scott. The spring production was the Neil Simon comedy *Fools*. Seven performances of

the comedy were presented including a production in Curtis, Nebraska, at the Star Theater.

1991-1992 Carolers Children from the McCook Community College Child Development Center sang carols for local businesses and also presented their Christmas wish list. One of the visits included the McCook *Daily Gazette* office.

1991-1992 Homecoming Royalty Finalists for royalty were Kendra Pomplun, Lisa Dusatko, Deanna Fox, Mary Gillen, Jacque Case, Lisa Hinz, Gary Thomas, David Wood, Darren Peterson, Dale Fahnholz, Andy Hogeland, and Randy Bunner.

1991-1992 Phi Theta Kappa Officers Officers for the 1991-1992 year were David Wood, Kendra Pomplun, Carmen Sawyer, and Jamie Birt. New initiates were Lori Axtell, Lynette Beckenhauer, Michell Chancellor, Norma Florom, Mike Fortkamp, Justine Horkey, Brady Larson, Christy Relph, Carissa Schow, Marci Vontz, Aki Yoshida, Anthony Bristow, Jonathan Brown, Daniel Custer, Janeen Hedke, Marc Hoffman, Denise Strasser, Loretta Iliff, Kari Kobus, Brenda Livengood, Joy Mattson, Joy Purkeypile, and Chicako Sakai.

1991-1992 Band Day Eighteen bands competed in the annual band day which was combined with Heritage Days for the first time. It was estimated that over 10,000 watched the parade. The Culbertson High School Band again received the award as the best band in Class C.

1991-1992 Phi Beta Lambda Officers were Lynette Beckenhauer, Jacque Case, Cricket Morehead, Randy Bunner, Andy Hoagland, John Bacon, Jana Latimer, and Donna DeOss. Students attending the Phi Beta Lambda regional convention in Dallas, Texas, were Dan Custer, Cricket Morehead, John Bacon, Troy Hauxwell, Melissa Stritt, David Wood, Lynette Beckenhauer, Jacque Case, Mike Fortkamp, Teresa Harmon, Roxann Witte, Kaylea Fischer, Jessica Reiners, and Brian Nelson. They were accompanied by business instructor, Elizabeth Benjamin.

1991-1992 MCC Ambassadors Ambassadors were Randy Bunner, Deanna Fox, Jacque Case, Barbara Bowen, Kendra Pomplun, Andy Hogeland, Scott Rathbun, Pat Weskamp, Aaron Vap, David Wood, and Dale Fahnholz. They were sponsored by Rick Michaelson.

1991-1992 Home Economics Convention Deanna Fox, Lisa Dusatko, Geneva Broomfield and Jennifer Markham attended the Home Economics

Association Spring Convention. They were accompanied by instructor Liz Larson.

1991-1992 England Tour Twenty-eight musicians raised funds to tour England at the end of the school year. They spent two days touring Cornwall and performed concerts for schools and charities. This was the third trip to England for the group.

1991-1992 International Student Club There were 19 members representing the countries of Holland, Japan, France, India, Malaysia, Canada, Palestine, Nepal, Taiwan, and Switzerland. Steve Batty and Sue Watts sponsored the group. A \$500.00 Rotary scholarship was presented to member Nabin Tuladhar.

1992 MCC Homecoming MCC royalty included Gregg Hilker as king and Joy Mattson as queen. Other attendants were Shelly Young, Ty Tomasek, Lori Axtell and Keith Ruff.

1992-1993 Madrigal Singers A new group THE Madrigal Singers was organized by Becky Burns, vocal music instructor. The group performed for area events, and members were Cari Hughes, LeAnn Vonta, Cathy Ator, Marc Huffman, Koby Rickertson, Chad Caldwell and Mike Long. Accompanists were Kathy Clapp, Jon Reiners, and Josh Harvey.

1993-1994 Phi Theta Kappa Art Competition The 10th annual Phi Theta Kappa Six State Art Competition included 58 paintings on display ranging in price from \$160 to \$2,160. Judge for the event was John Mikirahan, Director of the Nebraska Art Museum.

1993-1994 Phi Beta Lambda Phi Beta Lambda officers were Sandy Statz, Matthew Phetcher, Jennifer Dawe, Jennifer Rice, Candi Billington, Bobbi Garcia, and Kevin Whitmore. Janet Weber was the sponsor.

1993 Scavenger Hunt The McCook Chamber of Commerce sponsored a scavenger hunt as part of the freshman orientation session, August 17, 1993. Students were divided into teams of two and were required to obtain 25 items from Chamber members.

1993-1994 MCC Music Club Trip A vocal music trip to England in May was offered to students and the public. One of the fund raisers for the trip held by the MCC Music Club was a singing telegram service.

1993 Heritage Days The 1993 Heritage Days and MCC Band Day had 23 bands entered in the event. This was the greatest number of bands ever entered in the event. Winners included McCook Senior High and Junior

High for Class A, Ogallala was first in Class B, Chase County was second and Culbertson won first in Class C. Republican Valley won the class D field competition.

1992-1993 Phi Theta Kappa Initiates New Phi Theta Kappa initiates were Michelle Ball, Jennifer Bonser, Bobbi Bretz, Marcie Brush, Krystal Burge, Becky Burton, Dave Carfield, Paula Crawford, Richard Cueller, Jennifer Dawe, Rochelle Dotson, Brian Ellis, Kimberly Gall, Teresa Garcia, Jeffrey Glos, Suzanne Gould, Donna Haarberg, Teresa Harmon, Angella Hilliker, Sheila Irwin, Mary Jacobs, Michael Jesse, Gaye Kimminau, Joey King, Shannon Kuhlmann, Amy Long, Cecily Lynch, Angela McShane, Bonnie Memmelaar, Carol Menke, Stacy Michaelson, Lori Mueller, Ryan Murray, Linda Naeve, Amy Nielsen, Janelle Pardoe and Jeanette Peters. Others included Julie Pevler, Jacquelin Psota, Elizabeth Reiners, Steven Renner, Merlou Robinson, Denise Rodenbaugh, Chad Rooney, Kris Schepker, Marcus Schmidt, Cassandra Troudt, Jeremy Walker, Kay Werkmeister, Krissa Werner, Jennifer Wesch, Carrie Williams and Tori Woerner.

1992-1993 Another Canoe Trip A canoe trip down the Niobrara River was the activity for 100 students, six sponsors, one paramedic, 11 vehicles and three horse trailers on March 22-23. Students in Roger Wilson's Biology 100 or 200 classes or Physical Education 100 or 200 classes (the original class started in 1980 with 18 students) camped at Ballard's Marsh south of Valentine and then canoed the next day.

1993 The *Christmas Carol* The *Christmas Carol* was presented in November of 1993 and directed by Sue Watts, MCC drama instructor. This cooperative effort, along with the Southwest Nebraska Theater, had a cast of 34. (This production has become a biennial event for the community.)

1993-1994 Canoe Trip In The Snow Snow made for a freezing but fun annual canoe trip. Although the previous year's trip was shortened by hail and rain, the 1994 trip activities included building snowmen at stops, a football game, building campfires and cooking outdoors after a 15 mile first day trek and then a 10 mile second day workout with one canoe damaged at the narrows and a tipped canoe piloted by Amy Franden and Lori Cole. Roger Wilson again sponsored the group.

1993-1994 Student Activities Members Cheerleaders were Angie Hilliker, Susan Naismith, Jolene Messersmith, and Brenda Bivans. Student Senate officers were Lori Mueller, Jeff Gloss and Amy Neilsen.

Cliff Bryan and Ross Beaver led the Criminal Justice Club. PTK officers were Shauna Grotz, Ryan Murray, Gaye Kimmineau and Heath Wilkenson.

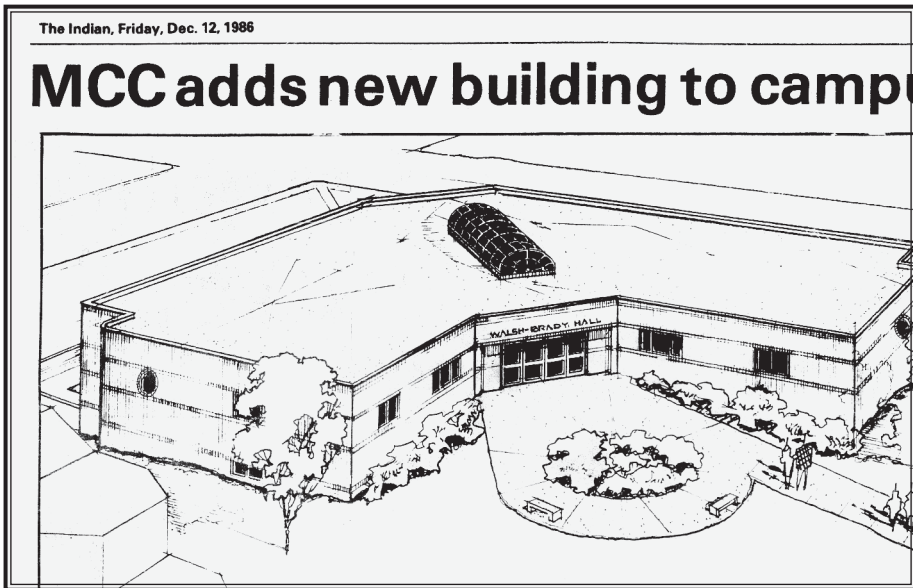
1993-1994 Mock Disaster The annual community mock disaster was based on the theme of a chemical explosion in the chemistry lab. Onlookers believed that an actual catastrophe had occurred. Students at MCC assisted the enactment by acting as the victims of the disaster. During the past 10 years MCC students have been volunteers for the mock disaster event coordinated by Kathy Dernovich, Health Occupations instructor, along with community agency personnel.

1994 Homecoming Royalty The 1994 Homecoming Royalty were Kelly Rue and Kristin Kudrna. Attendants were Amy Nielsen, Jeff Gloss, Krystal Burge, and Kristopher Flammang.

Facilities

1985 Horseshoe Pits Horseshoe pits were developed in the 1985 college year.

1986-1987 Walsh-Brady Hall Ground breaking for the Walsh-Brady Hall was held December 7, 1986. The new building was estimated to cost \$817,000. Two hundred thousand was designated from the capital improvement fund, and the remainder came from the Walsh-Brady fund. The ground floor housed several classrooms, a home economics department, a mechanics room, health occupations offices and classrooms, day care center and offices. The second floor was designed for five classrooms, five offices, a computer lab, computer room, an agriculture lab and conference room. The final construction stage of Walsh-Brady Hall was building the enclosure for the day care center. The building opened for the fall semester.



1986-1987 True Hall Renovation The Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area Governing Board decided to seek bids for the renovation of True Hall. A news article in the McCook *Daily Gazette* 28 5 1987 1 stated that the nearly completed Walsh-Brady Hall would alleviate the classroom shortage on the MCC campus and board members expected the True Hall project to make the gymnasium “a functioning facility” until a new gym could be built in 10 to 15 years.

1987-1988 Walsh-Brady Hall Walsh-Brady Hall was dedicated on Sunday, October 18, 1987. Dr. Smallfoot presided and gave the welcome. Dr. William Hasemeyer gave introduction and remarks, and other dedicatory remarks were given by Lloyd Benjamin, Tom Coffey, Jack Clark, and Louis Stithem. Art work was presented by Phi Theta Kappa members Dee Doyle and Vicki Hiser. A reception was held in the Home Economics area and tours were provided throughout the building.

1987-1988 True Hall Renovation Project Underway B-D Construction, Inc. of Kearney was the low bidder on renovation of True Hall with a bid of \$315,732. Renovation included a new roof, new lighting, new floor, weight room, two offices, modernization of the locker room, and new bleachers to double seating capacity to 678.

1986-1987 Dormitory Space Plans were being developed to increase dormitory space to house 80 more students. The MCC Foundation pledged \$150,000 for the project.

Brooks Hall - New Addition Set in Motion The proposal for the new dorm wing for a cost of \$875,000 was endorsed at the October 19, 1988, MPTCCA Board meeting. It was to be financed through the sale of bonds and a pledge of \$150,000 from the MCC College Foundation. The Foundation was given 18 months to raise the funds that would put the proposal into effect. The 80 person dorm addition would extend Brooks Hall on the north side.

1988 McCook College Foundation A proposal was given to the Area Board of Governors by the McCook College Foundation at the September Board meeting to increase the dorm size from 60 beds to 140 beds. The Foundation would begin a fund drive to raise \$150,000 which would be placed in an escrow account. The interest from the account would be used to pay off Housing of Urban Development bonds still owed for Brooks Hall. The College then could issue \$875,000 in revenue bonds for the addition. At the October regular Board meeting, the Area Governing Board voted unanimously to allow the Foundation to begin the drive which now had a goal of \$200,000, which included an additional \$50,000 for projects such as financing student trips, grants for equipment, and program start-up funds. Former students and community leaders provided testimonials that were published in the McCook *Daily Gazette* weekly in support of the project during the drive. By November 25, the goal had reached sixty-one per cent. A large sign was constructed on an island in Norris Park which was continuously up-dated showing progress of the drive. By December 20, the fund drive was nine beds short of the goal,

and by January 20, the goal was within \$10,000. Bids were let at the June meeting and the contract was signed on July 26. The total cost of the project, including architect's fees, was \$1,000,000. The successful bidder was Rhodes Construction Company, and the final proposal was for 80 beds.

1988 True Hall The renovation of True Hall allowed the basketball and volleyball teams to play at the facility for the first time in 30 years.

1989 Remodeling Remodeling of personnel offices was among the one-year facility improvements. Remodeled Student Services offices were moved to second floor of McMillen Hall. Other projects included replacing outside panels on Barnett Hall and the Von Riesen Library with stucco panels, replacing carpet in offices in McMillen Hall, remodeling the business office, and replacing carpet on the second floor of Barnett Hall.

1989 Old Post Office Community organizations and MCC received endorsement by the McCook Industrial Development Corporation for development of a fine arts center using the old post office building. However, the proposal was dismissed when a higher bid was received for the building.

1990-1991 HighTech Studio The music department added a high-tech recording studio with sound proof room as a setting for a new electronic recording studio class taught by Lonnie Weyeneth.

1990-1991 Dorm Donation A check for \$10,000 was presented to the McCook College Foundation for the Foundation's "Make a Bed" fund drive that raised \$200,000 to pay off existing debt on the dorm so that new bonds could be issued to build the expansion. The dorm dedication was held August 12 with Mrs. Ralph Brooks having the honor of cutting the ribbon. The 80-bed addition gave the college room for 140 students in on-campus housing. Mention was made that of the nine buildings on the campus, only two were totally funded with tax money, two were totally funded by donations from McCook families, two were financed by student-user fees, and three by a combination of several sources.



1991-1992 Football Field Study The McCook Board of Education and the MCC Foundation agreed to a joint study concerning the football field. Under the proposal, the Foundation would acquire title to Weiland Field which was owned by McCook High School as the result of an agreement made during the tenure of MCC President Elmer Kuntz. In exchange the Foundation would share the cost of developing an athletic field at the high school site. The property would be used for construction of a music and performing arts building. The Area Board also reviewed the needs as presented by the Foundation. (Note: As of 2011, the McCook Public Schools still own the field).

1992-1993 *South Pacific* *South Pacific* was presented March 17-20 by the MHS drama department, Southwest Nebraska Community Theater, and McCook Community College.

1992-1993 MCC WIGWAM Offers Meal Service The MCC student union was built in 1965 as the result of a student committee formed by

John Lonfelot, Arlene Chester, and Robert Harris. Over the years, the student center has offered lunch and snacks until 9:00 P.M. for students and faculty. Gary Roth managed the student union which also provided a place to socialize, watch television, play pool, video games, pinball machines, and table tennis.

1992-1993 New Projects A number of MCC campus projects were slated for funding during the 1993 year. The Area Board of Governors planned to update the computer system with the purchase of 26 computers with Walsh-Brady funds and to renovate Tipton Hall. This would be the fourth renovation since the Hall was built in 1962 as a “temporary building.” It originally housed home economics, music, and wrestling. Later renovations occurred for the Weeth Mini Theater, and when wrestling was dropped, the child development laboratory was added. Following the home economics move to Walsh-Brady, the music department was expanded to use the remainder of the area. Roof repairs and work on the air conditioning, heating and electrical systems was slated for the summer.

1993-1994 Building A performing arts complex and music building, along with an addition to Wrightstone Building at a cost of \$5.2 million was discussed at a meeting with community leaders and college administration.

1993-1994 Energy Grant MCC was awarded a \$1,275 energy grant to study McMillen Hall, True Hall, and the Student Union.

1993-1994 Americans With Disabilities Act Several changes to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act included renovating bathrooms, concrete and excavation of parking areas and sidewalks, adding ramps with handrails, adding a large door at McMillen Hall, remodeling classrooms, and providing new signage.

1993-1994 Additions To The Campus Park benches and a sign were additions to the campus. By 1994, the MCC campus appeared as captured in this aerial photo.



Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1984 Student Enrollment Enrollment hit an all-time high in the fall of 1984 with 847 students enrolled.

1984-1985 Tuition MCC tuition for 1984-1985 year was set at \$17 per credit hour.

1974 Early Beginning of the NPAC Program The idea of the program started with a conversation between MCC President Dr. Harold Deselmes and Dr. Doyle Howitt, Kearney State. When they began discussing how to increase enrollment for their institutions, Dr. William Hasemeyer was asked to join the next brainstorming session. With the assistance of federal funds available to fund criminal justice education for police officers in 1974, a joint program called the Nebraska Plains Alliance of College, NPAC, began to emerge.

After the success of the criminal justice program, a program offering degrees in elementary education was next. In 1980, NPAC began offering

courses required for a degree in business administration. Students were able to obtain a four-year degree without leaving McCook. Dr. Jo Keeler in her role as counselor, and later as Dean of Community Services, was an important stimulus to keep the program moving.

By 1986 the program peaked with five hundred eighteen students enrolled in business and education programs. Graduate offerings were added to the program and instructors from the Kearney campus taught in both North Platte and McCook. Other classes were dual numbered so that the two-year business degree would offer advanced skills, even though the classes were not offered on the Kearney campus until the junior level.

Once the merger with University of Nebraska occurred for Kearney State, the program was discontinued. However, many area citizens were impacted by the opportunity to earn a degree and lauded the program.

1984 New Programs During this period, the following new programs were added to the curriculum: Paramedic, Child Development and Training, Fashion Merchandising, Golf Course and Turf Management, and Swine Management.



Life-Save

Cooperating to make local paramedic services a reality are (from left), Dr. Richard Klug, medical director of MCC Life-Save Program; Deputy Chief Gary League, firefighter, paramedic and EMS instructor; Capt. Michael Hartwell, firefighter, EMS

instructor; Tom Hiser, firefighter, paramedic, EMS instructor; Monte Garcia, firefighter, paramedic; Kathy Dernovich, paramedic, MCC director of health occupations, coordinator of the MCC Life-Save Program. (Photo courtesy McCook Daily Gazette)

The paramedic training program began in 1984. It was the only out-state program as the other was offered by Creighton University. Kathy Dernovich was Director of the program.

1984-1985 Community Service Offerings Community service offerings the following: Understanding Investments in the 1980's, Credit and Collections, Personal and Home Safety, Integrating Work and Family,

Medical Emergencies, Medicare, Furniture Refinishing, Basic Nutrition, Window Display in Merchandising, Square Dancing, Intelligence and Prescriptions, Computer for Beginners, Creative Stress Management, Beat Energy Costs, Carpentry for Women, Numismatics, Microwave Cooking, and Healthy Holiday Cooking.

1984-1985 Vocational Grant A vocational grant of \$19,787 was awarded to the college to hire a day care center director and purchase material and supplies. Other grants funded day care equipment and computer equipment.

1985-1995 New Programs and Instructional Improvements At MCC during the period from 1985 to 1995, numerous changes and additions were made to the curriculum:

- **Child Care Center** The new child care laboratory opened in 1985 as a licensed center with Leila Hoyt as director.
- **Slow Scan Television** Burlington Northern Foundation presented MCC with \$20,000 to be used for establishing a Slow Scan instructional television system. Jim Hall, with the assistance of Judi Haney, delivered the first class over the system in 1985. Also that year, instructor Liz Jasnoch taught a Slow Scan class in Imperial.
- **1985-1986 New Farm and Ranch Financial Evaluation** A Farm and Ranch Financial Evaluation Program was approved by the Mid-Plains Technical College Area Governing Board. The program was sponsored by the Nebraska Technical Community College System in conjunction with the extension service.
- **Other New Programs During This Time Period** For several years, there was a Tour and Travel program. Also, there was a Golf Course and Turf Management Program developed and offered in coordination with NACIA.
- **ABE Classes** Kay Flaska began teaching ABE classes on cable television twice a week.
- **1986-1987 Satellite TV System** MCC installed a new satellite system which allowed the broadcasting of NCTV programs. The College also broadcast "Campus Network," in joint cooperation with McCook Cable Television. Students, faculty, and administration cooperated in preparing programming to

report campus news each week. Community organizations were also invited to make presentations. Judi Haney assisted with programming.



- **1986-1987 Health Care** A health care aide program was started.
- **1986-1987 McCook College Business and Vocational Advisory Council** The McCook College Business and Advisory Council

honored Mike Grutsch and Dr. C. G. Gross for their part in developing the McCook Health Occupations programs.

- **1987-1988 The McCook Crackerjack Program** This program was conducted during the first week in June on the McCook College Campus for 190 K-12 students.
- **1987-1988 Kiddie Kampus** Kiddie Kampus moved into the new building and 60 children were enrolled. An infant center was a new addition, and single parents received free day care as a result of the Carl Perkins grant. Leila Hoyt was the Director and Jerda Garey the coordinator of the early childhood education training program.

1986 MCC Records MCC started its 60th year with record enrollment of 1,000 construction on a new building, Foundation support for a new wing to the dorm, and new programs in Farm and Ranch Management, Tour and Travel, and Turf Management.

1986 NPAC Fall Ten advanced classes were offered by Kearney State College as a part of the NPAC program on the McCook campus.

1988 LPN The Licensed Practical Nursing Program which was a cooperative venture of the Mid-Plains Technical Community College, McCook Community College, and McCook Community Hospital had now trained 30 students in the past five years.

1988 Graduation Records: Increasing Graduating Class A study reported by Randy Hascall, managing editor of the McCook *Daily Gazette* 3 9 1988, indicated that MCC's graduating class increased 66 percent from 1985 to 1987, but the number of students going on to UNL fell by 57 percent. Kearney State was now the most popular college for MCC graduates. Nineteen percent of the 1986 class enrolled at KSC, seven percent at UNL, and 14 percent at other colleges.

1988 Temporary Secretarial Service A temporary Secretarial Service Program which would provide secretaries to fill in for vacationing employees was implemented. Angie Moore was director of the program which was supervised by Janet Weber.

1988 Enrollment MCC set an all-time enrollment record of 1,024 students for the first semester.

1988 Adult Basic Education The Area Adult Basic Education Administrator organized a Southwest staff that included Brigitta Post,

adult basic education instructor, and Pam Gaston, A.B.E. Volunteer Coordinator.

Other Developments During the Period:

- Business and industry training was expanded.
- Dual credit courses were organized with area high schools.
- In 1988, the Learning Resource Center (library) started a computerized newsbank.
- Television Channel 22 offered public access to and programming from the College. Judi Haney coordinated the channel, and the College presented updates and student programming by way of a television production class. The weekly radio program was coordinated with the television channel.
- The computer and information technology offerings were increased and strengthened.
- Vocational study tours were organized to enhance career development for students.
- The Small Business Assistance Center began to serve local business and industry.
- The Displaced Homemaker Center received funding.
- MCC's paramedic training program was designated a national registry test site.
- The Health Occupations faculty received a grant to establish rural emergency medical services.
- Sixteen off-campus advisory councils were established with responsibility for surveying students to determine non-credit and off-campus general studies courses for delivery to off campus-sites.
- Baseball and softball were added to MCC's sports offerings.
- Curriculum-related activities included an Art Paint-In, Town and Country Days, and a Home Economics Fair.

- In the Mid-1980's Kiddie Kampus preschool and day care center served 95 children and provided training opportunities for students enrolled in child care training. The former Tipton Hall wrestling room was converted into a Child Care Center with the assistance of a Carl Perkins Vocational Education Federal grant. Earlier training sites had included the upper level of the True Hall gymnasium for a two-day-a-week pre-school and the community day care center.
- "Bright Beginnings," a program for displaced homemakers and non-traditional students, was begun.

1989 Thursday College The Thursday College became an incentive program to draw more non-traditional students into college classes.

1989 Publication MCC's credit and non-credit offerings were highlighted in advertising for McCook and surrounding communities in a publication titled "In Your Community."

1989 Bright Beginnings Liz Larson was named the new Adult Services Coordinator for the Bright Beginnings Program which provided orientation for displaced homemakers and non-traditional students. Bright Beginnings also afforded child care assistance.

1990-1991 ABE Program The ABE program provided instruction for students studying for their General Equivalency Diploma. There were thirteen sites in the area that were staffed by volunteer teachers. Over 300 volunteers, under the direction of Volunteer Coordinators Pam Gaston and Pam Svoboda, were involved in the program.

1990-1991 Christmas Home Tour The George Norris Committee and McCook Community College cooperated in presenting the "Holiday Christmas Tour '90." The College provided buses for the tours of seven homes for 136 participants on December 9.

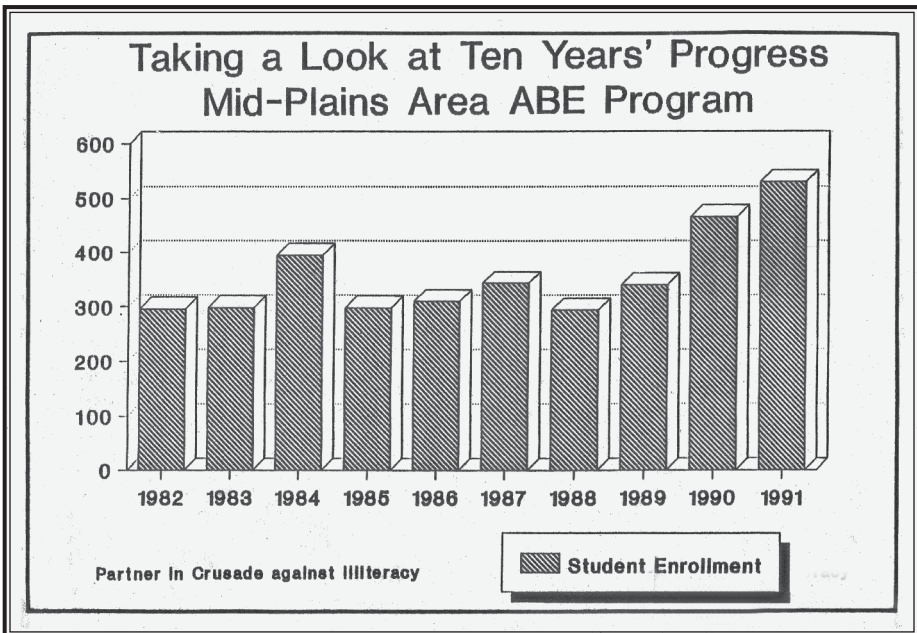
1990-1991 New Program An Accredited Medical Record Technician Program that was offered through the Independent Study provided by the American Medical Record Association was started. The first 16 modules were individually completed by the student. The last module was the Directed Clinical Practice which was completed in a nursing home or hospital setting. Passing a national examination was the last step in the process of becoming an accredited record technician. Donna Harr was instructor of the program.

1990-1991 College Enrollment President Bob Smallfoot announced that MCC enrollment reached a 20-year high with 434 full-time students. Total enrollment was 665 students at the end of August. (*McCook Daily Gazette*, 29 8 1990 1)

1990-1991 Concern for Children Gathering The second annual Concern for Children Conference was held September 8. (**Editor’s Note:** This conference is still being held annually, as are the Inter-High Scholastic Contests and the Art Paint-In.)

1991-1992 Telecourses - Extended-campus Offerings MCC offered four three credit hour Telecourses for the fall, suggesting that students could earn college credit on their own time in their own home. Seven on-site courses were offered at the Dundy County High School and six hours were offered via satellite. On-site credit courses were also offered at Culbertson, NCTA at Curtis, Eustis, Hayes Center, Imperial, Lebanon, Maywood, Palisade, Stratton, Trenton, Wauneta, and Wheatland. Agriculture, taught by MCC staff, was offered on campus at Kearney State College in the spring semester. Ten other sites offered on-campus classes during the spring semester.

1991-1992 ABE Classes Classes were scheduled for McCook, Benkelman, Maywood, Eustis, Curtis, Hayes Center, Trenton, Grant, Indianola and Bartley.



1992-1993 Satellite Offerings Satellite offerings on campus were enhanced by the use of a large screen in the mini theater for larger groups. The Annual Secretaries Day event took advantage of the satellite offerings as well as area counselors. Downloading classes for area bank employees also enhanced the education offerings for the area. Judi Haney, Independent Learning Center director, managed the satellite offerings.

1992-1993 Leadership Class Liz Larson and Susan Watts attended the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development Program training session in Queenstown, Maryland, to prepare them to teach a course in leadership development. The new course was designed to prepare class members to assume responsible leadership roles in personal, professional, and academic lives.

1992-1993 Outstanding Paralegal Graduates Brendan Green and Sheila Collins were the first recipients of the West Educational Publishing's Paralegal Student Award for outstanding scholastic achievement. Diane Lyons was coordinator of the program.

1992-1993 More Closed Classes "We have more closed classes than we ever had," said Bob Smallfoot, MCC President, when 479 students preregistered on August 19, 1992. "We are as much as 18 percent ahead of last year," Smallfoot said, "which as an early indicator is fantastic." (*McCook Daily Gazette* 1 19 1992)

Community Services Enrollment Community Services report received at the Area Board Meeting August 27, 1992, showed a total enrollment in 1991-1992 of 3,608 students in 233 classes, compared with 1,515 in 100 classes in 1988-1989.

1993-1994 Enrollments Enrollment for the first semester of 1993-1994 was 1,130 students, with 471 full-time students. Students represented 11 states and 170 cities. Four hundred forty-four enrollees were from McCook.

1984-1994 Evolution of Distance Learning at MCC

MCC faculty supported the distance learning initiatives as the technology unfolded and developed over this period of years. One of the concepts which took some time for faculty to embrace was that there were some high school students who were ready for college level courses.

Faculty member Kathy Dernovich, Health Occupations Director, was a strong supporter of any type of distance learning for Emergency Medical and Paramedic programs. In the 1990's and beyond, the fire science program relied on downlink delivery as did the railroad training and in-service for area banks.

As was the case at many colleges, the earliest form of distance learning at MCC was on-site (at a location separate from the main campus) delivery of a class or classes. At MCC, this was followed by slow scan television delivery in the mid-1980's (documented elsewhere in this book). Several faculty received instruction in curriculum, management, and delivery techniques for slow scan instruction from a national presenter of public television.

Judi Haney, Individualized Learning Center Director, facilitated some of the distance learning changes over the years. With the assistance and support of several administrators, Delores Meyers, Jo Keeler, and Jerda Garey, and also the leadership of Educational Service Unit Director, Al Schneider, a cooperative grant was written to the Rural Electrification Administration. This grant funded the consortium of area high schools and MCC to develop the classrooms in the schools and the college for delivery of classes. Shirley Schall developed the course delivery schedules and managed the delivery, and Judi Haney administered the college involvement. Mrs. Haney stated, "McCook faculty embraced these projects and were front runners in the delivery of classes." (Personal Interview with Jerda Garey, 11 17 2010)

There was thus an evolutionary process of distance delivery which accelerated during the 80's and 90's: individualized correspondence courses, on-site course delivery, slow scan, fiber, satellite, and then the beginnings of internet delivery.

Sports

1985 Volleyball Volleyball players were Trina Martin, Angie Rowland, Connie Dack, Terri Leitner, Sharon Leibrandt, Rita Ediger, Nancy Seifer, Yvonne Peil, Rhonda Peil, Rhonda Utesch, Sheila Blake, and Lynette Kisler. They won the sub-regional title with a win over York College but were eliminated in the Region IX tournament by Mid-Plains ending the season at 23-3-1. They were coached by Roger Shields. Sharon Leibrandt was chosen for the Region IX Tournament All-Star Team and for the Region IX Team, along with being named to the Nebraska All-Conference team. Other Nebraska Conference team members were Rhonda Utesch and Rita Ediger.

1985-1986 Women's Basketball 1985 women's basketball players were Amy Randall, Ann Simon, Sharon Liebrandt, Trina Martin, Carrie Hershfeldt, Pam Mohr, Juleen Stegman, Rhonda Utesch, Rhonda Ptomey, Joan Meister, Michie Baldwin, and Lynette Kisler. They were coached by Roger Shields.

1985-1986 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Gay Klassen, Calvin Wood, Mitch Muma, Daniel Paloma, Jeffrey Johnson, Don Liess, Austin Bailey, Don Allen, Ronnell Davis, and Travis Paige. They were coached by John Jurgenson.

1985-1986 Record Maker Calvin Wood broke a scoring record for MCC college basketball hitting 45 points in a game MCC won against Laramie Community College; the final score was 121 - 109.

1985-1986 Golf Team MCC fall golf team members were Ron Cash, John Sobieszcyk, Phil Rimpley, Greg Wiemers, and Tom Friehe. Coach was Bob Christie.

1986 Fall Golf Fall golf members were Fred Backer, Aaron Purdy, Chris Reinman, Randy Meyers, and Darrin Samway

1986 Men's Golf Coach Bob Christie reported that the golf team won the Western Classic Golf Tournament in April 1986. According to the *Indian*, dated Friday 29 5 1986, Coach Bob Christie stated, "By winning, we gained a lot of credibility." Ron Cash placed fifth at the Region IX Nebraska College Conference Tournament and earned a trip to Del Lago, Texas, for the national tournament. Ron Cash stated that the trip to nationals was a "tremendous and memorable experience. It helped determine my professional goal." (Ron Cash. Personal interview by Jerda

Garey 15 7 2009 at McCook, Nebraska.) The McCook team placed third in the tournament.

1986 Women's Volleyball The women's volleyball team members were Cindy Counce, Mindy Smolczyk, Julie Kubic, Dede Vogel, Chris Ferguson, Heather Hughes, Michelle Thomas, Lynda Hein, Dianne Dobler, Cindy Nelson, Shawn Krominga, Jannelle Harms, Ginger Land, Stacy Miller, and Karla McCann. Dede Vogel and Mindy Smolczyk were chosen All-Nebraska Conference players. The coach was Roger Shields. The volleyball team ended with a second place finish in the Nebraska Conference tournament. Dede Vogel and Mindy Smolczyk were named "All-Conference."

1986-1987 Men's Basketball Men's basketball players were Shawn Jones, Ronnell Davis, Bart Jacobsen, Jeremy Holder, Pat McKay, Gary Klassen, Marnix van Wijk, Ted Lashley, Rob Vitera, Tony Foster, Kerwin Strong, Treve Florom, Michael Beasley, and Tyronne Evans. They were coached by John Jergensen and student manager was Dan Cotton.

1986-1987 Women's Basketball The women's basketball team members were Cindy Counce, Cindy Nelson, Jennifer Yarberry, Susan Woods, Billie Jo Sandman, Terri Conyers, Sharon Wondra, Jeanette Phinney, Shelley Gerdes, Rene Erpelding, Janet Johnston, Angie Earnest, Kathy Allberry, Jodi Hastings, Deb Macke, and Heather Hughes. They were coached by Roger Shields.

1986-1987 Men's Golf Team Men's golf team members were Brian Jones, Ron Cash, Shawn Jones, Greg Weimers, David Platte, Brad Elliot, Chris Reimers, Fred Backer, and Robert Ballheim. They were coached by Robert Christie. Fred Backer qualified for the national tournament.

4

The Indian, Thursday, April 9, 1987



MCC golfers

MCC golfers this year include (front row, left to right) Ron Cash, North Platte; Greg Wiemers, McCook; Brad Elliott, La Junta, Colo.; and Coach Bob Christie. (Back) Robert Ballheim, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Chris

Reimann, Ogallala; Fred Backer, McCook; Brian Jones, Franklin. Not pictured is David Platt, Franklin. (Photo courtesy McCook Gazette)

1987 Women's Volleyball Women's volleyball players were Angie Rowland, Shauntelle Brummer, Dianne Dobler, Janelle Harms, Julie Kubik, Lynette Kisler, Linda Hein, Pam Bailey, Carla Wells, Connie Dack, Sheila Blake, Shaun Krominga, Michelle Thomas, Deanne Liess, Karee Callan, Dede Vogel, Jeanette Phinney and Chris Ferguson. They were coached by Roger Shield. Jeanette Phinney, Dede Vogel, Dianne

Dobler, and Lynda Hein were selected to the All-Nebraska College Conference volleyball team.

1987-1988 Women's Basketball Women's basketball players were Angie Ernest, B. J. Sandman, Shawn Krominga, Sharon Wondra, Casey Drake, Diane Dobbler, Carrie Hershfeldt, Ann Simon, Juleen Stegman, Lynette Kisler, and Joan Meister. They were coached by Roger Shield.

1987-1988 Men's Basketball Men's basketball players were Darren Gentry, Matt Weimers, Jack Ryan, Mike Palomo, Jeff Kuchar, David Guthrie, Pete Williams, Pierre Williams, Jamie Watson, Russ Sterkel, Scott Kudrna, Scott Middleton, Brian Foster, and Matt Callan. They were coached by Rick Nikunen.

1987-1988 Golfers The fall golfers were Darrin Samway, Craig Vincent, Aaron Purdy, Chris Reiman, Randy Myers, and Fred Backer. Spring golf team members were Scott Frank, Randy Meyers, Chris Reimann, Aaron Purdy and Darrin Samway. They were coached by Rick Nickunen.

1987-1988 Intramural Activities Intramural director Roger Wilson announced plans for a softball tournament, backgammon tournament, men's and women's single's pool tournament, cribbage tournament, and singles and doubles in horseshoes.

1988 Volleyball Volleyball players were Bobbi Caldwell, Heather Hughes, Stacey Miller, Dottie Trent, Lisa Potthoff, Deb Macke, Mindy Smolczk, Michele Nolting, Chris Anderson, Ginger Land, and Janet Johnston. They were coached by Roger Shields. Mindy Smolczk, Heather Hughes, and Dottie Trent were named to the All-Nebraska College Conference team.

1988 Cheerleaders Nine cheerleaders were selected in 1988.

1988 Golf Team Fall golf team players were Mark Nelson, Greg Villeneuve, Randy Meyers, Dave Howe, and Darrin Samway. They were coached by Rick Nikunen.

1988-1989 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Jack Ryan, Tim Gloston, Darren Gentry, Ed Kornegay, Kirk Wilson, Derek Andrews, Greg Gorans, Terry Jones, Scott Ramsey, Brian Radel, Sean Jordan, Scott Hoffman, Duane Johnson, Russ Sterkel, and Scott Middleston. Rick Nikunen coached the team, and Brian Loper was student manager. The season record was 13-17, and Coach Rick Nikunen was named Nebraska College Conference Coach of the Year. Darren Gentry,

Tim Glosten and Jack Ryan received All-Nebraska College Conference team recognition.

1988-1989 Women's Basketball Women's basketball team members were Renee Erpelding, Dottie Trent, Janet Johnston, Sonya Williams, Lesa Morrill, Holly Sterkel, Shelly Gerdes, Heather Hughes, Cindy Nelson, Deb Macke, and Terrie Conyers. They were coached by Roger Shields and finished with a record of 8-18.

1989 Volleyball MCC volleyball team members were Shannon Fries, Joann Carlson, Darcy Reeves, Cori Miller, Bridget Schlieker, Bobbi Caldwell, Renae Self, Maggie Ryan, Jennifer, Haarberg, Chris Anderson, Mary Tyson, and Stacy Kearney. Kathy Mason was the coach.

1989 Golf The golf team were Dave Howe, Mark Nelson, Chadd Beavers, Greg Villeneuve, Duane Johnson, and Chris Hall. Rick Nickunen coached the team. Greg Villeneuve and Chadd Beavers qualified for the national meet.

1989-1990 Men's Basketball Men's basketball team members were Kerry Price, Rod Caine, Wilbert Fochelle, Kirk Wilson, Tim Gloston, Jeff Pfaff, Darrell Garth, Meddore Douville, Lance Creech, Jeff Spellman, Tim Glaston, Ed Kornegay, Cricket Rochell, and Derek Andrews. Coach was Rick Nikunen.

1989-1990 Women's Basketball Women's basketball team members were Jami Garner, Kelly Williams, Theresa Freeman, Lisa Gardner, Shannon Jacobs, Maggie Ryan, Sonya Williams, Amy Meyers, Kristi Guthrie and Stacie Kearney. Coach was Roger Shields and student manager was Mary Tyson. Season record was 3-23.

1989 Booster Club The MCC Booster Club became quite active with the goal of increasing attendance at MCC athletic events.

1990 MCC Volleyball Volleyball players were sophomores Cori Miller, Kristie Guthrie, Shannon Fries, Stacie Kearney, Renae Self, and Ann Pedersen. Freshmen players included Sherrilyn Messersmith, Tami Bruntz, Tara Hubbard, Kim Wilson, Val Peterson, Doris Liess, Cheri Corliss, and Debbie Doll. They were coached by Kathy Matson.

1990-1991 MCC Men's Basketball Players on the MCC Men's Basketball team were sophomores Rod Caine, Jeff Pfaff, Kenny Dugger, Meddore Douville, and Lance Creech. Freshmen were David Turnbo, Ryan Lupton, Mark Leslie, Troy Mustin, Darren Peterson, Cory

Meisenbach, Brad Schonebert, Gary Thomas, Alex Perine, Brad Palmer, and Stuart Burgeson. They were coached by Rick Nickunen. Mark Leslie was named to the first team of the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference for 1990-1991. Alex Perine was named to the second team and Gary Thomas earned honorable mention. Coach Rick Nikunen was named Conference Coach of the Year.

1990-1991 MCC Women's Basketball Roger Shield coached the women's basketball team. Players were sophomores Kelly Williams, Angela Smith, Amy Meyers, Kristie Guthrie, Lisa Gardner, Shannon Jacobs and Stacie Kearney. Freshmen players were Sandy Sullivan, Staci Livengood, Robyn Collier, Val Peterson, and Rose Johnson.

1990-1991 MCC Golfers Members of the golf team were Brian Nelson, Derek Rolle, Chadd Beavers, Ray Jones and Jay Rolie. They were coached by Rick Nikunen. Brian Nelson and Derek Rolle qualified for the National meet held in Midland, Texas.

1991 Volleyball Roster Although a thorough search was conducted, this roster still was not found.

1991-1992 Volleyball Team Awards Val Peterson and Doris Liess were named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference Team. Val Peterson also was named an Academic All-American with a 3.78 grade point average.

1991-1992 MCC Men's Basketball The roster contained sophomores David Turnbo, Ryan Lupton, Darren Peterson, Kenny Dugger, Gary Thomas, and Alex Perine. Freshmen players were Kevin Anthony Green, Mike Tuttle, Gregory Burke, Trevor Hogeland, Justin Malcom, Jason Schliep, and Marc Schmidt.

1991-1992 MCC Women's Basketball Team Team members were sophomores Robyn Collier, Val Peterson, Rosalie Johnson, and Brenda Hemberger. Freshmen were Andrea Jennings, Nikole Schwab, Danielle Bailey, Diane Goodwin, Carol Menke, Traci Wemhoff, Kim Holloway, and Jenn Bonser. They were coached by Roger Shields. Val Peterson and Andrea Jennings were named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic team and Carol Menke earned honorable mention. Ms. Peterson also earned All-Region IX women's team honors.

1991-1992 MCC Golfers Members of the golf team were Shannon Brougham, Jerrod Smith, Brian Nelson, Derek Rolle, Ray Jones, Brett Wentz, and David Skinner. Six meets were scheduled during the fall

season, and the spring schedule included six tournaments. Ray Jones earned a berth in the National Junior College Golf Tournament with his fourth place finish at the Region IX Meet.

1992 Spring MCC Golf Golf team members were Brett Dallman, David Skinner, Chris Weimers, Trevor Hogeland, Cam Golby, Chad Juntunen, Devyn Anderson, and Chad Conzemius. Trace Bevell was the coach.

Fall 1992 Golf Chris Weimers, David Skinner, Cam Colby, Chad Juntunen, and Chad Conzemius.

1992 MCC Volleyball Coach Amy Randel had three returning sophomores: Lori Axtell, Carol Menke and Kaye Raney. Freshmen players were Melanie Anderson, Connie Aspenleiter, Tina Bryant, Tammy Churchill, Heidi Fanning, Amy Graff, Angela McShane, Roxanna Siegel, Gina Sliva, Sandy Statz, and Laurie Smith. Lori Axtell earned Academic All-American Honors.

1992-1993 MCC Men's Basketball Team members were Marcus Bowen, Trevor Hogeland, Larry Williams, Tony Butts, Mike Tuttle, Mark Leslie, Justin Malcom, Eric Hill, Paris Oates, Damian Cephas, Marcell Grandberry, Marc Schmidt, Anthony McCloud, and Keith McClenny. They were coached by Trace Bevell and student assistant coach Gary Cloyd. After averaging 21 points a game, Mark Leslie signed a letter of intent to play basketball at the University of Idaho.

1992 MCC Golf Golf team members were Brett Dallman, David Skinner, Chris Weimers, Trevor Hogeland, Cam Golby, Chad Juntunen, Devyn Anderson, and Chad Conzemius. Trace Bevell was the coach.

1992-1993 Women's Basketball MCC women players were Bobbi Bretz, Janelle Pardoe, Andrea Jennings, Susie Rilling, Amy Nielsen, Roxann Siegel, Tracey Marquardt, Tiffany Taylor, Carol Menke, Cassandra Troudt, Amy Hershfeldt, Jenn Bonser, Traci Wemhoff, Laurie Smith, and Kim Holloway. Roger Shield coached the team. A new school record was set at the Southeast Community College game at Beatrice with the Lady Indians scoring eleven three pointers, two of which came on the opening two possessions of the game. Coach Roger Shields was named the Region IX Coach of the Year.

1993 Golf Spring 1993 golfers were Brett Dallman, David Skinner, Chris Weimers, Trevor Hogeland, Cam Golby, Chad Juntunen, Devyn Anderson, Dan Custer and Chad Conzemius. They were coached by Trace Bevell.

4-Sports



Golfers open season

MCC golfers this year are (from left) Coach Trace Bevell, Chris Wiemers, Dave Skinner, Trevor Hogeland, Devyn Anderson. Not pictured: Dan Custer. The team finished eighth in the Blue Devil Classic at Beatrice over the weekend, with a score of 354. Northeast of Norfolk won with 308. The

team went on the the Trinidad Invite Thursday and Friday, the Otero Invite Saturday, and the Western Nebraska Invite April 8-9. The McCook Invitational is April 15-16, and the Region IX is at Scottsbluff April 26-28. (Photo courtesy McCook Daily Gazette)

1993 Volleyball Team members were Jennifer Rice, Amy Graff, Bobbi Bretz, Gina Sliva, Tracey Rowley, Sandy Statz, Kerri Kircher, Karri Blagdon, Roxanna Siegel, Tausha Nelson, Sandi Greeland, Laurie Smith and Jill Walter. Roger Shield coached the team.

1992-1993 MCC Cheerleaders Cheerleaders were Katie Parker, Lee Ann Vontz, Micki Booe, Angie Titkmier, and Angie Hilliker.

1993-1994 Golfers Derek Price, Brent Custer, Matthew Stritt, Chris Weimers, and Kris Flammang were members of fall and spring golf team. Trace Bevell coached the team.

1993-1994 Women's Basketball Team members were Bobi Bretz, Gigi George, Janell Pardie, Amy Nielsen, Mindy Lueking, Nashelle Frederick, Danelle Hodges, Cassandra Tropudt, Kelly Ward, Kristy Ring, and Sue Rilling. Roger Shield was the coach.

1993-1994 Men's Basketball Team players were Zorman Burrac, Jason Homan, Ray Douglas, Deon Edwards, Damican Cephas, Todd Leopold, Carolus Aloes, Demond Thomas, Robert Battle, Cory Bevell, and George Williams. They were coached by Trace Bevell.

1993-1994 Basketball Team Support The lack of school support for basketball games became a topic of discussion in the campus newspaper, February 1994. Suggestions for improvement included more announcements to students, half-time contests, broadcasting games, and half-time performances.

Unusual / Notable

Burlington Northern 1984-1985 The Burlington Northern Foundation awarded a \$20,000 grant to the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area to be used to connect the Imperial site with McCook and for community services presentations. The college also received a \$10,000 check from McCook Cable TV to be used to purchase equipment that would enable the college to send locally originated programming over the cable system. The projects were under the direction of Judi Haney.

1984-1985 Volentine Trust Fund A \$10,000 Myatt Volentine Trust Fund was established to be used for no-interest loans to promising students.

State Board of Trustees for Community Colleges State legislation had created the six community college areas during the 1970's. During the 1980's a new State Board of Trustees was identified with representation from each community college board of trustees.

1985 Community Youth Project In 1985, the Community Youth Project continued to assist troubled elementary students needing special tutoring by matching them with college mentors. Study sessions were held each week, with recreational activities planned for the last hour of the session. Instructors included Judi Haney, Bill Marshall, and Jack Dodge.

1985 L. Jack Olson Art Collection In August of 1985, MCC received a collection of 24 paintings by L. Jack Olson. The paintings were donated by Mr. Delmar Ebert of Denver, Colorado. The collection had been

appraised at \$12,746.22. Mr. Ebert also contributed \$1,000 to establish a scholarship in memory of Mr. L. Jack Olson.

1986 Sixty-Year Reunion Members of the first graduating class at McCook Junior College held their 60-year reunion. Members attending included Mildred Metheny Waterman, Gladys Hein Kidd, Celesta Scott Walter, Renee Welborn Creasman and Wendell Cheney. Russ Southard and Harley Lofton also attended along with Angie Thompson and Mildren Meyers.

1987-1988 College Fiscal Study A college fiscal study showed that McCook Community College had an economic impact of \$13,000,000 into the city of McCook in the past year.

1990-1991 Mayor Visits Flora Lundberg, McCook Mayor, discussed equal opportunities and her experience with female employment in the workplace. Mayor Lundberg was the first female mayor of McCook.

1990-1991 Concerned Citizen's Committee A group of southwest Nebraska residents joined together to form a Citizen's Council for College Development. Jim Suiter, chair of the group, stated, "We are a citizen's group who believe that McCook Community College is one of McCook's most important institutions, and we are committed to doing all within our power to see that the College's important role is maintained and expanded." (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 12 10 90 1) Among the concerns was the newly reconstituted Post-secondary Coordinating Commission for Higher Education and the move to make McCook Community College a campus, rather than a college. The committee was also concerned about a logo for the Mid-Plains College District that does away with a separate logo for McCook Community College. Other members of the steering committee include Norma Stevens, Gene O. Morris, Cloyd Clark, Lloyd Benjamin, and Mary Ellen Goodenberger.

1990-1991 MCC Employee of Month In an effort to connect college staff with the community, a series of ads featuring pictures of MCC employees and their positions were printed each month in the local newspaper.

1991-1992 Guarantee to Transfer A written guarantee of transfer was being funded by the McCook College Foundation to make McCook the first community college in the state that actually provided a written guarantee of transfer. Students were to enroll in and successfully complete courses listed on the Advising Guide for the program of study at the transfer institution. The students also had to earn a grade of "C" or better and transfer within one year of graduation from MCC.

1991-1992 Alumni Event An MCC Alumni and Friends Banquet and Dance was held April 25 to support the MCC Alumni Scholarship Fund. Honor classes recognized were 1932, 1942, 1952, 1962, 1972, and 1982. Dance music was provided by Dr. Henry Weeth, class of 1933, and his band.

1992-1993 GED Graduate Suprises Family Marguerite Hanson gave her family a very unusual gift by earning her GED at the age of 78. None of her children knew she was enrolled in the program, and she attended classes at the library in Curtis through the ABE program and tested at MCC.

1992-1993 Bucholz Exchange A class was held in Germany for five students who represented the United States at an International Youth Camp in Bucholz. Twenty-one students from Germany visited McCook and attended a class designed to share history and culture of the region including visits to the Dancing Leaf Earth Lodge, a day in Cambridge, the Red Willow County fair and rodeo, Buffalo Bill Ranch in North Platte, Governor's office in Lincoln, railroad yards, irrigation reservoirs, and local farms and ranches. Don Harpst assisted Jerda Garey, Dean of Community Services, with the arrangements.

1992-1993 MCC Foundation Dal Wood, McCook, was elected president of the MCC Foundation, taking over the post from long-time Foundation President, Lloyd Benjamin. Over the years the Foundation raised funds for scholarships and for debt reduction on buildings. The Foundation also funded student organization trips and internship opportunities. The Foundation received \$70,000 from the Dorothy Chambers estate during the year.

1992-1993 College Beginnings Wendell Cheney, a member of McCook Junior College's first freshman class in 1926, presented class photographs and other memorabilia to College President Dr. Robert Smallfoot. The pictures were hung in McMillian Hall. (History Writer's note: now in 2011, these artifacts are in the college memorabilia room in the basement of the library).

1991-1993 Community Builders The Community Builder's Academy began as an outreach arm by the Department of Economic Development. Dr. Robert Manley was retained by the Department to develop an academy model pilot and selected the southwest Nebraska region. The program was initiated after Governor Ben Nelson signed a rural development pact with Southwest Nebraska in October of 1991.

McCook Community College President Robert Smallfoot and Community Services Dean Jerda Garey assisted Dr. Manley in organizing the academy model, and meetings were held in each southwest Nebraska community.

Three Academy members were selected by each community, and a graduation was held at the completion of the year's training and town hall meetings. New academy members were selected by the outgoing community members. Steve Batty, Small Business Assistance Director, also assisted with the community events when Department of Economic Development representatives and other state agency personnel were in attendance. Community tours enabled participants to brainstorm about their suggestions for promoting the communities and for new business development. Guidance was given on writing grants, developing new products, writing business plans, leadership development, tourism, and cooperative buying.

1992-1993 REAP Meetings As the result of Steve Batty's efforts, the Rural Enterprise Assistance Project was started in April, 1993. Topics to be covered during the program year included business plans, marketing, promotion, advertising, financial management, customer relations, and goal setting. Funds were generated through the City Council appropriations and accessing federal and state funds.

1993-1994 Marketing the College Marketing of the College began to utilize the concept that students are customers. The Financial Impact Study conducted by the MCC Foundation reported that the average full-time student spends \$5,400 a year, and the part-time student contributed \$6,700 to the community's economy a year. A need for more part-time positions of 25 hours or more was shown by the survey.

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE - MCDONALD-BELTON CAMPUS 1984-1994

(now referenced as The North Platte Community College South Campus)

Administration and Faculty

Administration: 1984-1990

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| President | Kenneth L. Aten |
| Dean of Academic Instruction | Burton B. Brackney |
| Associate Dean of Students | Darrel E. Hildebrand |

Dean of Community Services Thomas J. Gorman

Dean of Library Resources Center Keith A. Saathoff

Administration: 1991-1994

Campus President Burton B. Brackney
(retired in 1991, replaced
by Galyn Carlile, replaced
in 1992 by W. A. Griffin)

Dean of Academic Instruction Janis Ridnour

Dean of Students Darrel E. Hildebrand

Dean of Community Services Thomas J. Gorman

Associate Director of Admissions and
Counseling Susan Schaeffer
(1990-1993)
replaced by Karen Hibbard
1993

Director of Library and Resources Center Keith A. Saathoff

Administrative Processes and Events

1992 Administrative Change On July 22, 1992, Dr. Galyn Carlile resigned as President of the McDonald-Belton Campus.

1992 New Campus President On December 2, 1992, Dr. Bill Griffin, Jr. was hired as the President of McDonald-Belton Campus.

1993 Tom Gorman Honored Tom Gorman received the Missouri Valley Adult Education "Achievement Award for Nebraska." He was honored for his work with 5,000 adult students that served at Mid-Plains Community College, his work with community development in Nebraska, his customer service training, and his work with the Learning Resource Network.

Faculty: 1984-94

English Ivan Koch, Jerry Ulrich,
Margaret Kreuzberger
(replaced in 1987 by
Ruth Wohler)

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Speech and Drama | Nadyne Hengen, Colin Taylor |
| Art | Bruce Wyman, (replaced in 1992 by Charlene Bauer, replaced in 1992 by Gil Rocha) |
| Music | Robert Landberg, (replaced in 1988 by Ron Holscher, replaced in 1989 by Leland Finecy, who was replaced during 1995-96 by Myra Katherine Hale.) |
| Mathematics | Virgil Nelson, Carol Burns added in 1992 |
| Math/Physics | Larry Smith |
| Biological Sciences | James Carson, John Gerdes, Kim Soper added in 1992 and not replaced in 1994, John Gerdes (replaced by Mark Bland in 1995) Chemistry Boyd Gentry retired in 1993, (replaced by Denise Barnes) |
| Social Sciences | Roger Babcock, Carl Mundis, James Nevitt |
| Criminal Justice | Donald Grubb, (replaced in 1987 by Allen Settles) |
| Men's Physical Education | Kevin O'Connor, (1985) Men's Athletic Coach and math instructor; replaced Rusty Parker |
| Women's Physical Education | Sally Thalken, Women's Athletic Coach and Physical Education |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Computer Science | Started in 1991 with Eardley Ham (replaced in 1992 by Althea Stevens) |
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Jan Schulte, Kenneth Barr, not replaced in 1986, Martin Steinbeck added 1991 |
| Business | Roy Deeds, Janis Ridnour hired in 1985 as business and marketing instructor, (promoted in 1992 to Dean of Academic Instruction) |
| Secretarial | Eloise Schwab, Marilyn McGahan, Jean Condon (started in 1987) |

Faculty/Administrator Recognition

1987 Bruce Wyman Honored *McDonald-Belton art instructor, Bruce Wyman, was honored when the North Platte Public Library displayed a sampling of his art work during the month of March. Wyman specialized in pottery, ceramics, and paintings.*

1989 Gorman Named Network Representative *Tom Gorman was named Mid-West Regional Representative for the Learning Resources Network. The Learning Resources Network provided information and consulting expertise on course trends, teaching training, marketing, and programming classes for adults.*

1989 Ruth Wohler Presentation *Ruth Wohler presented a session in Omaha to an educator's attending the joint conference of the Reading Association and the College Reading and Learning Association.*

1991 Marilyn McGahan Honored *In March of 1991, several North Platte women were named "Women of Achievement." Among those was Marilyn McGahan, business instructor at the McDonald-Belton Campus.*

1992 Nebraska Nurse of the Year: Dorothy Arendt *A part-time registered nurse at Brown County hospital in Ainsworth and also a part-time clinical nursing instructor for Mid-Plains Community College in the satellite practical nursing program received the award.*

1993 Marilyn McGahan Honored *On August 25, 1993, Marilyn McGahan was named as 1993 Business Education "BEST" in 1993.*

1994 NISOD Excellence Awards *the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development awarded four instructors of the McDonald-Belton Campus with the NISOD Awards. The four instructors were Dr. Roy Deeds, Accounting; Marilyn McGahan, Business and Secretarial; Virgil Nelson, Mathematics; and Jerry Ulrich, English.*

1994 BEST Awards *Jean Condon and Marilyn McGahan of the McDonald-Belton Campus were selected as BEST award winners from the Business Education Department of Nebraska Department of Education.*

1995 Marilyn McGahan Honored *Delta Pi Epsilon recognized Marilyn McGahan as Outstanding Educator for 1995. Also, Marilyn received the Business Education Association Service Award at the Nebraska State Business Education Association convention in Kearney.*

1998 Jean Condon Honored *Business Instructor Jean Condon was named 1998 Outstanding Post-Secondary Business Teacher by the Nebraska State Business Education Association.*

Student Affairs and Activities

1984 to 1994 Business Student of the Month Selecting a Business Student of the Month was an on-going activity for the Business Division on the McDonald-Belton Campus. Each month the business faculty selected a Business Student of the Month based on academic achievement and student participation. Each student received a certificate and write up on their behalf was submitted to the North Platte *Telegraph* and/or their hometown newspaper. In the period between 1984 and 1994, approximately 90 business and secretarial students received this honor.

1983 to 1993 Business Field Day Every spring in April, Scribes (Secretarial Club) on the McDonald-Belton Campus with the support and assistance of the Business Advisory Committee would organize a field day. Students would divide into several groups and tour various local businesses in the morning. At noon, they would meet at a local restaurant for a banquet. Officers of the Scribes would be in charge of the program which would consist of entertainment and a speaker. Also, Scribes and Business Student of the Month Certificates would be awarded.

1984 Fall Combined Effort The Music Department and the College Court Jesters performed The *Music Man* co-directed by Robert Landberg and Colin Taylor.

1984 Student Senate In September 1984, the Student Senate group elected officers for the 1984-1985 year. President was Clinton Assarsson, and vice president was Dick Keck. Secretary for the year was Roy Blayliss.

1985 Convocation by Rabbi Rabbi Sidney Brooks was the guest speaker at a student and staff convocation at McDonald-Belton. His presentation was on the topic "God, Drugs, Sex, and Heavy Metal." Part of the address concerned the differences between Christians and Jews.

1985 Open House - Features Arts The annual open house at McDonald-Belton features 250 pieces of art by students from 20 area high schools. Also during the event college drama students performed the one-act play, "Step on a Crack". Tours of the campus were also given for those who were interested.

1986 Spring - Combined Effort The College Music Department and The College Court Jesters performed the musical, *Grease* starring Dick Hall, and directed by Robert Landberg and Colin Taylor. Cast included Kevin Anderson, Angie Turner, Rob Conley, Doug Hayes, Kelly Michaels, Dale Douglas, Lynn Mullen, Johnny Slack, Bill Mooney, Karen Kumm, Gene Esch, Jonathan Schubauer, Lowell Fenster, Mark Furry, Jeff Cooper, Pam Sillvan, Brett Mefford, Don Swigart, Roy Kempf, Susan Bertram, Shawna Foight, Denise Carpenter, Jamie Wenz, Todd Kumm, Penni Chitwood, Donna German, Ellen Hopping, Mary Hutchieson, Beth Kawalski, Danielle Martz, Tammy Milne, Cynthia Peterson, Robin Shields, Matt Stokely, Stacy Sucraw, and Toni Van Ert. Deb Saner was accompanist; stage manager was Peggy Sykes; Jeff Mecomber did lighting; and Shannon Northey was set designer, with Kathi Beasley,

Marie Blankenship, Jo Anne Emert, Betty Fillmore, Brett Mefford, Amanda Navarette, and Angela Turner doing set, props, and costumes.

1986 Fall - Combined Effort The College Court Jesters and the music department performed the musical *South Pacific* directed by Bob Landberg and Colin Taylor, and choreographed by June Robinson. Stage manager was Peggy Sykes, assisted by Cheryl Matthies, Roy Kempf, and Melodi Johnston. Musicians were Tegrin Woogie, John E. Brawand, Ron Potter, Jr., Jim Curry, Ed Kovry, Dave Thelen, Jan Bachman, Ron Roberts, Don Swigart, and Stace Combs. The cast included Diana Zorilla, Travis Fox, Todd Van Buskirk, Peggy Farrell, Michael Douty, Melodi Johnston, Greg Shriver, Michael Lynn McClellen, Robert F. Faling, Colby Elliott, Roy Kempf, Don Swigart, Cory Hoelsing, John Schubauer, Bill Medich, Johnnie Slack, Brad Gress, Hazel Hopping, Teresa Gifford, Teresa Bassett, Kelly Michaels, Laura Crone, Lavonne Gordon, Ellen Hopping, Barb Medich, Shannon Northey, Elaine Gale, Melinda Fosbinder, Dalene Hovey, Jennifer Johnston, Alicia Perez, Heather Richards and the entire stagecraft class.

1987 College Open House at McDonald-Belton In May 1987 there were numerous activities at McDonald-Belton campus for the annual Open House. The play *Wiley and the Hairy Man* was performed, special speech presentations were made, and the college choir performed. Also, an art fair with exhibits from area high school students was displayed, and awards were presented during closing ceremonies.

1988 Spring Combined Effort The College Court Jesters and the Music Department performed *Li'l Abner* with Bob Landberg and Colin Taylor co-directing. In the cast were Kevin Anderson, Angie Turner, Rob Conley, Doug Hayes, Kelly Michaels, Dale Douglas, Lynn Mullen, Johnnie Slack, Bill L. Mooney, Karen Kumm, Gene Esch, Jonathan Schubauer, Lowell Fenster, Mark Furry, Jeff Cooper, Pam Sullivan, Brett Mefford, Don Swigart, Roy Kempf, Susan Bertram, Shawna Foight, Denise Carpenter, Jamie Wenz, Todd Kumm, Penni Chitwood, Donna German, Ellen Hopping, Mary Hutcheson, Beth Kowalski, Danielle Martz, Tammy Milne, Cynthia Peterson, Robin Shields, Matt Stokely, Susan Sucraw, and Tony Van Ert. The orchestra consisted of Kristen Clarke, Rich Birge, Kathy Scott, Dave Thelen, Jan Bachman, Steve Bade, Don Swigart, and Stace Combs. Jeff Mecomber did lighting, and Shannon Northey, Kathi Beasley, Marie Blankenship, Jo Anne Emert, Betty Fillmore, Brett Mefferd, Amanda Navarette, and Angie Turner did the entirely two-dimensional props and set.

1989 Student Senate Officers For the 1989-1990 year, student senate officers were President - Heather Laura Welch, Vice-President - Michael Riedel, and Secretary - Barb Baumann. The senate set the college's social calendar, monitored student opinions, and named student members to regular college committees.

1989 Court Jesters Present Play The play titled *All the Way Home* was written by Tad Mosel. Students involved in the production were Kent Winder, Madeline Williams, Jacquelyne Colman, Jim Robertson, Kim Ross, Janet McQueen, Lynette Cooper, and faculty member Richard Chamberlain. The play was directed by Colin Taylor. Assistant director was Kim Ross, and Denise Gordon was lighting director.

1989 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed *The Apple Tree* starring Susan Osnes, and Charles Stoeger. Other cast members were Kent Winder, Madeline Williams, Lynette Cooper, Jennifer Johnston, and Janet McQueen. Colin Taylor directed.

1989 Truman Memorial Scholarship Nominees MPCC sophomores Vicki Lynn Barrett Delgado, Marci Morrison, and Tracy Kaye Orr were nominated for the Harry S. Truman Memorial Scholarship.

1990 MPCC Court Jesters On Stage *The 3rd Great Course Acting Show* was performed. Featured actors were Kent Winder, and Artie Parker, Michael Reed and Sid Fessler, Jennifer Johnston, Sharon Smolik, Jason Axthelm, and Madeline Williams.

1990 MCC Court Jesters The group performed *A Thurber Carnival*. Cast members were Sharon Smolik, Rex Stych, Jennifer Ponzi, Jennifer Johnston, H.J. Harding, Lana Anderson, and Jason Axthelm.

1991 Community College Week Activities McDonald-Belton campus honored Community College Week by three activities: 1) Circle K conducted a senior citizen coupon project, 2) the Court Jesters performed the play *Dining Room*, and 3) a special forum was held with Robert Kublawi on the historical background of conflict in the Persian Gulf region.

1991 Inter-high Contest Nearly 1,100 area high school students turned out for competition in 24 scholastic and technical program tests held on the McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech campus locations. Ogallala, Hershey, Callaway and McPherson County each took home grand champion trophies.

1991 *Bye Bye Birdie* The musical was performed on April 20, 1991. McDonald-Belton students who performed in it were Steve Torres, Shad Olson, Sylvia Mintle, Brooke Bale, Monte Dart, Sally Jochen, Jennifer Berggren, and Luke Wid. Others who helped with the production were Don Swiggert, Stan Clouse, and Leonard Pearson. The production was directed by Lee Finecy, college music instructor.

1991 Spring Open House and Vocational Contest/Art Fair The event attracted 665 art projects. Thirty trophies and 100 medals were given for art work. Also, the Court Jesters performed a play.

1991 Student Senate Officers The following were elected as Student Senate officers for the 1991-1992 year: Cara Catlett, President; Shayne Youngans, Vice-President; Shannon Hyde, Secretary.

1991 Summer Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed the *15 Minute Hamlet* directed by Colin Taylor, along with skits written and directed by Patrick Gorman. Casts included Heidi Neighbors, Sid Fessler, April Julich, Holly Lerch, Patrick Gorman, and Andy Jewell. The plays were done at the McDonald-Belton Theater and the Vocational Campus student lounge.

1991 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed *The History of Japing from Monty Python's Evening at the Hollywood Bowl* directed by Colin Taylor, with Preston Havens, Mikah Pfortmuller, Mindi Taylor, and Brad Stover included in the cast.

1992 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed E.O. Wilson's unpublished play, *Unpublished Letters* starring Jason Axthelm and Jennifer Johnston. Colin Taylor directed the premier stage performance.

1992 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed Neil Simon's *God's Favorite* with David Cooper, Heidi Neighbors, Brad Stover, Sid Fessler, Sarah Rudloff, and others. Colin Taylor directed.

1993 Spring Open House and Vocational Contest/Art Fair This year, the college presented a \$500 tuition waiver to the best-of-show winner in the art and vocational categories.

1993 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters toured a children's play, *The Littlest Star*, to Ogallala and other area schools and invited local school children to a performance in the McDonald-Belton Theater. Colin Taylor directed a cast including Heidi Neighbors, Sid Fessler,

Will Henningson, Jason Axthelm, Sharon Smolik, Bill Hickert, Megan Goldberg, and Brent Christianson.

1993 Fall Court Jesters The College Court Jesters premiered *Templer Truth, God's Own Con Man*, a verse play adapted from Moliere's *Tartuffe* by Deryl Barr, who played the title role, and Colin Taylor. The cast included Heidi Neighbors, Sharon Smolik, Jason Axthelm, Sid Fessler, Tina Pawnee, and Jana Catlett

1994 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed *Joined at the Head* in the McDonald-Belton Theater, with Colin Taylor directing and Heidi Neighbors, Craig Loya, Megan Goldberg, Sid Fessler, and Brent Christianson among the cast. Jason Axthelm was lighting director.

1995 Spring Open House and Vocational Contest/Art Fair The Art Fair attracted 805 entries. Melissa Anderson of Chase County High School won the Best of Show. Best of Show winners received a plaque and a \$500.00 tuition waiver.

1995 Spring Court Jesters The College Court Jesters performed an unpublished adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland* set in an attic. Jeana James, Bill LaRue, Jim Applegate, Dr. James Nevitt, Nathan Barr, and Alrich Rocha were included in the cast, and Gil Rocha's art students, Olivia Morris and Mindi Taylor, did the extraordinary come-to-life setting. Colin Taylor directed.

Facilities

1995 Information System Architecture Progress In the spring of 1995, Dean of Instruction Janis Ridnour reported that McDonald-Belton could offer one-way video along with two-way audio links to a number of Area schools. Dean Ridnour also indicated that a fiber-optic television link was being planned. This link would connect McDonald-Belton with McCook Community College allowing for the delivery of needed classes between campus locations.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1985 McDonald-Belton Classes Offered in Ogallala In the spring 1985 semester, McDonald-Belton offered the following classes at the Ogallala site: Beginning Typewriting, Introduction to Computer, Introduction to Psychology, and Keyboard Applications for Word Processing.

1985-1994 McDonald-Belton Full-time Students During the period from 1985 to 1994 full-time students ranged from approximately 300 to 400 at McDonald-Belton Campus.

1985-1994 McDonald-Belton Part-time Students Part-time student enrollment varied from approximately 400 to 500. Part-time students, more often than not, were night-class students. There were part-time students on the main campus location, but part-time enrollments could also be found at off-campus locations: Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine, and Mullen.

1985-1994 Degrees and Diplomas For both the McDonald-Belton Campus and the Voc-Tech campus the total (both locations) number of degrees, certificates, and diplomas for the time period was 2,500.

1985-1994 McDonald-Belton Student Progress General academic transfer students continuing their education (after their time at McDonald-Belton) from 1985 to 1994 ranged from 60 to 70 percent and those finding employment ranged from 20 to 30 percent.

Program Completions for McDonald Belton

| | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Arts & Science | 74 | 58 | 96 | 80 | 84 | 45 | 87 | 79 | 84 | 78 |
| Business Occp./ Sec | 21 | 17 | 19 | 17 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 15 | *18 | *27 |
| Health Occp. Includes MLT | - | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Annual total | 95 | 80 | 118 | 100 | 99 | 66 | 107 | 100 | 108 | 111 |

The ten-year totals for these programs were as follows: Arts and Science - 765; Business Occupations and Secretarial - 173; and Health Occupations including Medical Laboratory Technician - 46. The ten-year total for all of these programs combined was 984.

1984 MLT Graduates Score Well Seven Medical Laboratory Technician graduates passed their MLT registry exams with higher than average grades according to a report given to the Board of Governors.

1986 Follow-up Report of Voc-Tech Graduates According to material presented in the MPTCCA Vocational Graduates Follow-up report,

graduating students in practical nursing and HVAC met with good success in securing jobs during this time period.

1985-1989 Community Services The Community Services Program at North Platte Community College enjoyed a great deal of success in the years following 1985. During these years, the annual enrollment in adult short courses/workshops and seminars averaged 3,400 registered students each year in nearly 150 classes based upon records from the late 1980's. Workshops, seminars, and classes were offered each year, and the College expanded class offerings to Broken Bow, Ogallala, Valentine and other area communities. The North Platte program focused on professional continuing education in the areas of nursing, EMT training, real estate, child care providers, and others.

There were some highlights and enrollment shifts during these years. Key enrollment factors included a very successful co-sponsored effort with Great Plains Regional Medical Center to offer professionally approved continuing education seminars and classes for area nurses and other health care personnel. Over 1,000 nurses from the North Platte area and surrounding towns in Western Nebraska attend many annual training sessions.

Nearly 1,500 area business owners, managers, and employees enrolled in a wide variety of business programs each year as the Community Services Division worked with area Chamber of Commerce groups and organizations. In 1985, Dean of Community Services Tom Gorman reported developing a partnership with Nebraska Business Development Center. As a result of the partnership, new small businesses would receive guidance and support, and existing business could be reviewed and advised for possible improvements.

During these years, the Community Services Division also supervised the Adult Basic Education Program and administered all of the North Platte GED tests each year. Over 500 GED tests were supervised each year, and nearly 100 adults obtained their GED certificates each year. Many of the adults who obtained their GED certificates were then channeled into credit classes at both the vocational and academic campuses.

The Community Services Program in North Platte played a key role in facilitating upper-level college classes from Kearney State College/ University of Nebraska at Kearney during these years. Upper-level education and business graduate classes were available each semester

with nearly 800 Kearney students enrolled in almost 60 classes in the 1988-1989 college years.

During this five-year period of time, about 68% of community service enrollments were women and 32% were men. Also during this time, about 60% of the community service enrollments were FTE producing, professionally approved, continuing education.

A highlight of this period of time was the class, "Bodies in Boot Hill" receiving the "Course of the Year" Award in 1988 from Learning Resources Network (LERN), which is the leading international organization in class programming. The class was based on a historical account of the bodies that were buried in the Ogallala Boot Hill cemetery. The course was selected because the concept of researching the history of the early residents buried in any community cemetery provided an interesting history of the pioneers of any town. Also, during this same time period, Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, was recognized for his work at the State and national level in adult and continuing education by receiving the President's Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association.

1990-1995 Community Services During the next five years from 1990 to 1995, there was a steady increase in annual enrollment and the first year of enrolling over 5,000 students was attained in 1994-1995 when there were 5,116 students in 218 classes. Professional continuing education for nurses, child care providers, real estate agents, and emergency medical personnel remained a strong area for our annual enrollments. A new training area was created by offering computer classes in weekend settings. As the demand for professional state approved continuing education increased during these years, the Community Services Program expanded the annual offerings so that 75% or the classes offered met these requirements. Only 25% of the annual offerings at this time were personal interest and recreational classes.

Conferences for youth leadership, one-day seminars for women, and a two-day State Quilters conference were highlights of new targets for additional enrollment. A new program for area farmers, ranchers, and bankers combined the "new" use of satellite and telephone technology to bring sessions featuring Senator Bob Kerry live from Washington, D.C.

Another new area was developed during this time as the college began to co-sponsor with the County Attorney's Office the monthly Defensive Driving classes for people who had received speeding tickets or who

had lost their driver's licenses. During the first year of this co-sponsored effort, there were 27 classes and over 400 people in the defensive driving classes.

1988-1989 Tuesday College Tuesday College was initiated at McDonald-Belton during the fall of this year. A schedule was set so that a student could take 12 semester credit hours by attending college just one day per week. The purpose of the scheduling was to make college more accessible to persons who lived some distance from North Platte and who could not attend college throughout the whole week on a regular basis.

1990's Community Services and Distance Learning Delivery Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, coordinated a teleconference on Vocational Education and Economic Development. Area education, business, and government leaders were invited to this event. Bill Eakins, Director of the Career Assessment Center, also helped to facilitate this event.

The Community Services Division also coordinated one of the first satellite conferences at McDonald-Belton entitled "Win-Win Tactics for Managers and Supervisors." Representatives from the American Management Association made the presentation.

In 1993, West Central Nebraska residents participated in a two-part, state-wide teleconference to discuss problems and solutions for the health care system in the state. Sites were linked through Nebraska ETV.

1991 Importance of NPAC Roy Deeds, Business Administration Department Chair, commented on the value of the the Nebraska Plains Alliance of Colleges as a program that helped McDonald-Belton business students secure a four-year degree without having to leave North Platte.

1991 Repetitive Motion Workshop This workshop was broadcast to more than 50 sites in the U.S. and Canada. The class focused on injuries that sign language interpreters develop by their repetitive motion and overuse of their hands related to their work.

1991 NPAC Numbers Dean of Community Services, Tom Gorman, reported that since 1986 3,000 students had enrolled in expanded campus (NPAC) courses offered by the former Kearney State College.

1993 Historic Health-care Teleconference West Central Nebraska residents participated in a two-part, state-wide teleconference to discuss

problems and solutions for the health-care system in the state. Sites were linked through Nebraska ETV.

1993 Optometric Assisting Program Eliminated The program was in existence for 21 years but was not able to produce the required 10 graduates per year, a requirement of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post - Secondary Education.

1993 September Distance Learning Technology Purchases Dr. Bill Griffin reported that distance learning room technology had been ordered and would be installed so that the room would be operational by January of 1994. Lighting, a computer console, cameras and other machinery was set up in one distance learning classroom on the McDonald-Belton campus.

Sports

1984 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1984 team members were Amy Bossung, Vickie Werkmeister, Sandy Mann, Shelly Cooper, Kathy Parker, Brenda Mailander, Jacquie Mecomber, Jean Moran, Lauri Tomas, Lori Johnson, and Teresa Brestel. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Margaret Tomas and Lorri Durfee. The most valuable player was Sandy Mann. Brenda Mailander, Sandy Mann, and Jacquie Mecomber, were named to the All-Conference Team; Jacquie Mecomber and Lauri Tomas were named to the All-Region IX team, and Brenda Mailander, Sandy Mann, and Jacquie Mecomber were named to the Region IX All-Tourney Team. Lauri Tomas was named second team All-American.



1984 Post Season Lady Knights Volleyball The Lady Knights won the Region IX Volleyball Tournament by defeating Western Wyoming College of Rock Springs, Wyoming, and were off to the 1984 Championship Tournament where they finished in ninth place. They received special recognition from the MPTCCA Board for their accomplishment.

1984-1985 Knights Basketball The 1984-1985 basketball team members were Jerry Adams, John Arko, Tom Callaghan, Steve Clay, Tim Cooper, Jeff Essman, Jon Karn, Shawn Lynch, Paul Reilly, Chris Ritterbush, Mark Rolfzen, Ivory Rucker, John Weis, and Rusty Wintermote. Rusty Parker was the coach.

1984-1985 Lady Knights Basketball The 1984-1985 basketball team members were Amy Bossung, Lauri Tomas, Michele Rasby, Lori Joedeman, Sheila Bauder, Melissa Ochsner, Lori Johnson, Amy Greco, Teresa Brestel, Annie Anderson, Dena Weinman, and Brenda Mailander. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Lorri Durfee and Margaret Tomas.

1985 Men's Basketball In 1985 when Rusty Parker left coaching to pursue other opportunities, Kevin O'Connor, who had played basketball for Steve Aggers and had graduated from MPCC, was named the new basketball coach and has since 1985 continued to be the coach. During the span of years from 1985 to 1994, the men's basketball team had a won-loss record of 174-111 for a winning percentage of .610. During this time there were also two NJCAA All-American players at MPCC; both coached by Kevin O'Connor:

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Glover Cody | 1989-1990 |
| LeMont Daniels | 1993-1994 |

1985 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1985 team members were Julie Short, Jeanie Talbot, Shari Bohling, Shelly Cooper, Cindee Ostendorf, Julie Joedeman, Tami Armstrong, Teresa Gifford, Lori Johnson, and Deanne Weber. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Margaret Tomas and Tricia Sheets. Tami Armstrong, Shelly Cooper and Lori Johnson were named to the All-Conference team; Lori Johnson was named to the All-Region IX team, and Lori Johnson was named to the All-Tourney team.

1985-1986 Knights' Basketball The basketball team members were Hollivan Billups, Bob Broberg, Steve Clay, Jon Karn, Kerry Lawrence,

Brad Miller, Mark Rolfzen, Ivory Rucker, Dave Vogel, John Weis, Rusty Wintermote, and Tom Woods. Kevin O'Conner was the coach.

1984-1994 Women's Basketball Summary Information Sally Thalken continued coaching women's basketball through the 1990 season. For this time, she had a record of 54 wins and 107 losses for a winning percentage of 33.5%. Renee Sears was the coach for the 1991 season with a record of eight wins and 16 losses for a winning percentage of 33.3%. Brenda Casper was the coach in 1992 with a record of 8 wins and 18 losses for a winning percentage of 33%. Craig Stevens was coach for two years, 1993 and 1994. His record was 21 wins and 27 losses for a winning percentage of 43.7%.

1985-1986 Lady Knights Basketball The 1985-86 team members were Jeanie Talbot, Brenda Gies, Jana Huerta, Lori Joedeman, Shari Bohling, Melissa Ochsner, Lori Johnson, Cherie Fhuere, Tami Armstrong, Julie Joedeman, and Deanne Weber. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Tricia Sheets and Margaret Tomas.

1986 Lady Knights Volleyball The volleyball team members were Jeanie Talbott, Jodi Hastings, Karla Slingsby, Mary Houlden, Denise Gosnell, Shari Bohling, Gina Warner, Cindee Ostendorf, Shelly Derra, Lisa Smith, Tami Armstrong, Teresa Gifford, Karen Haynes, and Deanne Weber. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Janet Mecomber and Julie Woracek. The most valuable player was Karla Slingsby. Tami Armstrong and Jeanie Talbott were named to the All-Conference team; Karla Slingsby was named to the All-Region IX team; and Karla Slingsby was named to the All-Tourney team.

1986-1987 Knights Basketball The team members were Bryan Alexander, Dave Benson, Hollivan Billups, Bob Broberg, Brian Hope, Scott Jones, Kerry Lawrence, Mark Mercer, Brad Miller, Terry Pell, Tony Principato, Dave Vogel, Tom Woods. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1986-1987 Lady Knights Basketball The team members were Jeanie Talbot, Jodi Hastings, Jana Huerta, Shelly Lee, Shari Bohling, Gina Warner, Cherie Fhuere, Tami Armstrong, and Deanne Weber. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Teresa Gifford and Julie Woracek.

1987 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Lori McConnell, Jodi Hastings, Tish McCants, Karla Slingsby, Mary Houlden, Joy Hughes, Donna German, Gina Warner, Pam Sullivan, Joanie Lewandowski, Corinne Krause, Jill Anderson, and Karen Haynes. The coach was Sally

Thalken. The student managers were Julie Woracek and Jana Smith. Jodi Hastings was the most valuable player. Jodi Hastings, Mary Houlden, and Karla Slingsby were named to the All-Conference team; Jodi Hastings and Karla Slingsby were named to the All-Region IX team; and Jodi Hastings and Karla Slingsby were named to the All-Tourney team. Karla Slingsby earned All-American Honorable Mention.

1987-1988 Knights Basketball The team members were Dave Benson, Scott French, Andy Hanks, Shane Hook, Brian Hope, Pete Howard, Scott Jones, Mark Mercer, Matt Neil, Terry Pell, Tony Principato, Curtis Rogers, Marvin Rose, Ed Sughroue, and Wendell Womack. In February of 1988, the Knights' defeated Platte College to win the conference title. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1987-1988 Lady Knights Basketball The 1987-1988 team members were Jodi Hastings, Susan Reed, Ginger Rutherford, Corinne Krause, Gina Warner, Donna German, Beth Kowalski, Joanie Lewandowski, and Jill Anderson. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Christy Hasenauer and Julie Woracek.

1988 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1988 team members were Lori McConnell, Angel Sharman, Deanne Brown, Pam Sullivan, Donna German, Joy Hughes, Julie Egnoske, Joanie Lewandowski, Corinne Kraus, Diane Zumbahlen, Hope Schurman, and Cyndi Williams. Sally Thalken was the coach. The student manager was Jana Smith. Joanie Lewandowski was the most valuable player. Donna German, Joy Hughes, and Joanie Lewandowski were named to the All-Conference team; Joanie Lewandowski was named to the All-Region IX team; and Joy Hughes was named to the All-Tourney team.

1988-1989 Knights Basketball The 1988-1989 members of the basketball team were Glover Cody, Scott French, Andy Hanks, Shane Hook, Pete Howard, Ray Johnson, Jamie Lewandowski, Kyle McCormick, Matt Neil, Curtis Rogers, Marvin Rose, Gerry Sagehorn, Ed Sughroue, Jason Van Cleave and Wendell Womack. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1988-1989 Lady Knights Basketball Angel Sharman, Susan Reed, Donna German, Angie Klosen, Jill Cooper, Lora Martin, Stephanie Taylor, Beth Kowalski, and Cyndi Williams. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Shelly Hoyt and Jana Smith.

1989 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1989 team members were Angel Sharman, Patty Smith, Becky Sullivan, Angela Hartley, Julie Egnoske, Jamie McClain, Julie Barner, Diane Zumbahlen, Sheri Hueske, Erin

Konkoleski. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Michele Haigh, and Darin Weber. The most valuable player was Angel Sharman. Angel Sharman and Diane Zumbahlen were named to the All-Conference team; Angel Sharman and Diane Zumbahlen were named to the All-Region IX team; and Julie Barner, Sherie Hueske, and Angel Sharman were named to the All-Tourney team.

1989-1990 Knights Basketball Glover Cody, Charles Hogan, Ray Johnson, Bill Kuhl, Jamie Lewandowski, Kyle McCormick, Gerry Sagehorn, Mike Schroer, Paul Stone, Jason Van Cleave, and Willie Wright. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1989-1990 Lady Knights Basketball The 1989 team members were Julie Waugh, Angel Sharman, Becky Donovan, Angela Hartley, Angie Klosen, Kelley Van Cleave, Jill Cooper, Julie Barner, Jamie McClain, Michelle Mawhinney. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Michelle Haigh, Joani Mohr, and Darin Weber.

1990 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1990 team members were Nicole Lovitt, Brenda Amm, Tonya Staff, Angela Hartley, Jamie McClain, Brandi Christensen, Julie Barner, Christy Hansen, Sherry Hueske, and Erin Konkoleski. The coach was Sally thalken. The student managers were Michele Haigh, and Darin Weber. The most valuable player was Julie Barner. Julie Barner, Angie Hartley, Sheri Hueske and Nicole Lovitt were named to the All-Conference team; Julie Barner and Angie Hartley were named to the All-Region IX team; and Julie Barner was named to the All-Tourney team. Julie Barner earned an All-American second-team honor.

1990-1991 Knights Basketball The 1990-1991 team members were Tyrone Buchanan, Jade Egle, Charles Hogan, Damon Hubert, Ronnell Jones, Bill Kuhl, Kirk Robbins, Brian Schneider, Mike Shroer, Ryan Smith, Albert Snoddy, Terry Spriggs, Tim Stevens, Paul Stone, Paul Stuckey, and Willie Wright. Kevin O'Conner was the coach.

1990-1991 Lady Knights Basketball The 1990-1991 team members were Michelle Vergil Peters, Brandi Christensen, Melody Waltermire, Angela Hartley, Nicole Lovitt, Tonya Staff, Julie Barner, Jamie McClain, Kelly Van Cleve, Jen Milliken, Beth Brown, and Michelle Mawhinney. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Michele Haigh and Darin Weber.

1991 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1991 team members were Brenda Amm, Tonya Staff, Trina Niebur, Nicole Lovitt, Brandi Christensen,

Tiffani Hughes, Becki Hansen, Lynn Smith, Stephanie Pudelko, Stacy Stoll, Mindy Cramblet, and Mary Sughroue. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Christy Hansen and Heath Peters. Brandi Christensen and Nicole Lovitt were named to the All-Conference team.

1991-1992 Knights Basketball The 1991-1992 team members were Tyrone Buchanan, Dwayne Coleman, Dwight Coleman, Jade Egle, Jerome Golihare, Tarus Green, Damon Hubert, Ronnell Jones, Travis McConnell, Kirk Robbins, Brian Schneider, Ryan Smith, Albert Snoddy, Terry Spriggs, Tim Stevens, Jeff Stewart, Paul Stuckey, and Roy Woods. Kevin O'Conner was the coach.

1991-1992 Lady Knights Basketball Michelle Vergil Peters, Mary Sughroue, Brandi Christensen, Nicole Lovitt, Gina Stinson, Trina Niebur, Lynn Smith, Mindy Cramblet, Beth Brown, and Jen Milliken. The coach was Renee Sears. The student manager was Christy Hansen.

1992 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1992 team members were Tracy Moore, Tracy Sloger, Diana Harrison, Trina Niebur, Stacy Roberts, Samantha Placek, Heather McCune, Timi Williams, Lynn Smith, Stephanie Pudlko, Stacy Stoll, Mindy Cramblet, and Mary Sughroue. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student manager was Brendan Young. The most valuable player was Mary Sughroue; Stacy Roberts, Lynn Smith, and Mary Sughroue were named to the All-Conference team; and Trina Niebur, Lynn Smith and Mary Sughroue were named to the All-Tourney team.

1992-1993 Knights Basketball The 1992-1993 team members were Keith Brooks, Dwayne Coleman, Dwight Coleman, Miloud Dahine, Lemont Daniels, Randy Gilson, Jerome Golihare, Tarus Green, Lance Groseth, Kent Koehn, Travis McConnell, Jeff Stewart, Jerome Washington, and Roy Woods. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1992-1993 Lady Knights Basketball The 1992-1993 team members were Amy Youngmans, Mary Sughroue, Shannon Christensen, Brenda Pinedo, Stacy Roberts, Denise Messersmith, Tracy Sloger, Lynn Smith, Diana Harrison, and Mindy Cramblet. The coach was Brenda Casper.

1993 Lady Knights Volleyball The 1993 team members were Tracy Moore, Tracy Sloger, Dianna Harrison, Amy Bean, Stacy Roberts, Anne Dee Stubbs, Timi Williams, Markella Finley, Kisha Gracey, Kristi Larrew, and Sandra Stock. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Laura Bissell and Heather McCune. The most valuable players were

Amy Bean and Stacy Roberts. Diana Harrison, Tracy Moore, and Stacy Roberts were named to the All-Conference team.

1993-1994 Knights Basketball The team members were Keith Brooks, Miloud Dahine, Lemont Daniels, Shawn Garner, Randy Gilson, Gary Griffin, Lance Groseth, Oswego Harper, Antonio Iseah, Arzell Jackson, Kent Koehn, Myron Sims, Jerome Washington, and Tony Williams. Kevin O’Conner was the coach.

1994 March The Mid-Plains Knights men’s basketball team qualified for their first ever Region IX finals play-off. The team was defeated in the final game by Western Nebraska.

1993-1994 Lady Knights Basketball The team members were Jan Joedeman, Tana Halloway, Amy Pankonin, Kisha Gracey, Denise Messersmith, Tracy Sloger, Steph Diaz, Shannon Christensen, Markella Finley, Linda Miller, Brenda Pinedo, and Diana Harrison. The coach was Craig Stephens.

Unusual / Notable

1984 MBA Program In November of 1984 Kearney State College, in cooperation with McDonald Belton Campus and MCC, agreed to make available a Master’s in Business Administration degree program. This was a first for the MPTCCA region.

1986 Anniversary Celebration Both North Platte campus locations conducted a 20 year (since the opening of MPCC) celebration in May. Activities and events were displays of artwork, special vocation exhibits, a choir performance, a play, and a free disco dance.

1987 Truman Scholarship Randy Neeman, a Stapleton cowboy and McDonald-Belton non-traditional student, was awarded the Truman Scholarship. The Scholarship was awarded by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. It provided \$7,000 per year for the final two years of undergraduate work and two years of post-graduate work.

1987 State Writing Festival Tom Gorman helped facilitate the State Writing Festival at McDonald-Belton campus. The event was held on June 6, 1987. Previously unpublished work was submitted for this event which was then subsequently published in a book.

1988 Economic Impact Study A study was conducted to determine the economic impact of McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech on the local and

area economy. Findings were that the local economy was impacted by \$30.7 million related to the colleges. College officials took expenditures reported by college employees and students and then figured how that money was respent on goods and services in North Platte and the surrounding area.

1989 Truman Scholarship Three students from McDonald-Belton campus were nominated for the Harry S. Truman Memorial Scholarship. They were Phillip Geary, Chris Mazour, and William “Bill” Schmidt.

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE - VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CAMPUS: 1984-1994

(now referenced as the North Platte Community College North Campus)

Administration: 1984-1990

| | |
|---|--|
| College President <i>(for both campus locations)</i> | Kenneth L. Aten |
| Dean of Vocational Instruction | James E. Doyle (retired in 1989, replaced by William D. Eakins as part-time Acting Dean) |
| Dean of Students | Donald L. Rockafellow |
| Associate Director of Career Assessment | G. Bruce Dowse |
| Director of Part-time Vocational Instruction | Paul D. Winkler (retired in 1987, replaced by G. Bruce Dowse) |
| Director of Nursing and Health Occupations | Pauline A. Shahan |
| Director of Placement and Recruiting | C. Cliff Hermance |
| Director of Physical Plant | Ronald W. Axtell |
| Director of Career Assessment Center | William Eakins (started in 1986) |
| Associate Director of Career Assessment | Bruce Dowse (started in 1985) |

Administration: 1991-1994

| | |
|--|--|
| Campus President | Kenneth L. Aten |
| Dean of Students | Donald L. Rockafellow |
| Dean of Instruction/Dean of Career Assessment Center | William D. Eakins |
| Director of Part-time Vocational Instruction | G. Bruce Dowse (the title was changed to Dean of Extended Vocational Services) |
| Director of Nursing and Health Occupations | Pauline A. Shahan |
| Director of Recruitment and Placement | C. Cliff Hermance (retired in 1991, replaced by Judy L. Harms, replaced in 1992 by Angela Pacheco) |
| Director of Physical Plant | Ronald W. Axtell |

Faculty: 1984-1994

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Data Processing | Frank Freeman (Located on Voc Tech campus) |
| Dental Assisting | Rose White |
| Optometric Assisting | Mary Evans (until the program was discontinued because of lack of students in 1994) |
| Nursing | Bridgetta Anderson, Barbara Christenson, Diane Hoffmann, Elaine Kockrow, Elaine Maseburg, Judith Gutschenritter, Linda Nelson, Constance Homan retired in 1991 (was replaced by Lois Stebbins), Lula Zlomke retired in |

| | |
|--|--|
| | 1989 (was replaced by Jane Pederson). Kristin Maugh started in 1989 (was replaced by Linda Miles in 1991). (Practical Nursing only until 1990 when Associate Degree Nursing was added with instructors teaching in both programs.) |
| Auto Body | Don Wilson |
| Auto Mechanics | Lowell Fenster, Robert Brown, retired in 1995 (replaced by Michael Kava). |
| Diesel Mechanics | Russell Berggren, Leonard Smith (replaced by Kent Beel in 1987). |
| Welding and Metals | Emanuel Templien, Tim Golden |
| Electronics | Gordon Koch, William Powers, retired in 1989 (replaced by Richard Stephens). |
| Electrical | Ivan Nickerson |
| Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning | Leonard Van Ert, Nels Clang |
| Building Construction | Robert Reed, retired 1986 (replaced by Ronald Norrie,) Howard Hanson (replaced in 1986 by Fay Smith, who was replaced in 1988 by Don Kuhlman.) |
| Drafting | Hanford Lynn |

Student Affairs and Activities

1984 VICA Activity The Vocational Industrial Club of America at the Voc-Tech elected officers in September of 1984. Val Regier was elected president, and Darrin Magnuson was elected vice-president. Other officers were as follows: Brenda Henry-secretary, Mike Ekdahl-treasurer, Clive Lynes-reporter, and Scott Penner-parliamentarian.

1984 Blood Drive Nursing student Cathleen Saner organized the blood collection at the Voc-Tech campus. Seventy-one students donated blood.

1985 VICA Activity The Vocational Industrial Club of America at the Voc-Tech held a carnival night on campus. Money from the fund raiser was used to send students to the national VICA contest at Phoenix.

1985 Vocational Fair The high school portion of the Voc-Tech vocational fair displayed 158 projects which were entered into the categories of woodworking, welding, and drafting and design. Twelve trophies and 46 medals were presented to recognize outstanding student craftsmanship.

1986 Vocational Fair The Vocational Fair was held on May 10. Activities were the High School Art Fair exhibits on display along with the High School Vocational Fair displays and the House Auction. The McDonald-Belton campus had performances by the MPCC Choir along with the MPCC Court Jesters play.

1987 Vocational Fair Held in May of 1987, the Vocational Open House and Fair had a number of activities including a miniature tractor pull, a nail-driving contest, free blood pressure screenings, and a demonstration on computer-aided drafting. Also, a double-car garage built by the construction department was auctioned off.

1988 Department Technical Students of the Year For the first time, eight Voc-Tech students were named Department Technical Students of the Year. They were Judy Lyons - MLT, Kris Proud - HVAC, Bret Floro - Building Construction, Galen Brown - Welding and Machine Shop, David Hahn - Drafting and Design, James Walker - Diesel Mechanics, Martin Enderle - Electronics, and John Harris - Auto Mechanics.

1989 State VICA Competition Mary Evans, an instructor at Voc-Tech, helped organize state VICA Competition which was held in North Platte. Participants were challenged in competitions involving welding, air-cooled engines, residential wiring, carpentry, and CPR. Leadership contests were extemporaneous speaking and prepared speaking along

with job interview skills. This was the third time that North Platte hosted the event.

1989 Vocational and Art Fair Special events at the Voc-Tech included a miniature tractor pull sponsored by the diesel technology department, free blood pressure screening, a night class photography exhibit, a computer-aided drafting display, and a high-tech robotic arm work-cell display. The activities of the day concluded with a public auction of a garage built by students in the construction and design program.

Most of the trade and technical departments continued to be very active with post-secondary VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). They participated in the State Skills Contests with some students qualifying for National Competition in which the following place very well.

1986 2nd Place - Welding - Rex Walz, Stapleton
Instructors - Joe Templien, Tim Golden

1991 1st Place - Electronics - Andy Wyman, North Platte
Instructors - Gordon Koch, Richard Stephens

The Building Construction and Drafting Departments continued to have clubs active with the Nebraska Association of General Constructors and the North Platte Home Builders Association.

Departmental Advisory Committees were utilized by all Trade and Technical Programs.

1984-1994 Nursing Graduates Pass State Board Exams The following information is for the period from fall 1984 through spring semester 1994. Since the nursing program students started twice each year, there were graduations and certifications twice each year, both winter and summer. Over the ten-year period included in this section of the history book, 99 percent of the students passed the exams with much higher than state and national average.

1989 LPN Nursing Graduation There were 24 students of practical nursing who received their LPN diploma at mid-September ceremonies. Diane Graber, Dean of Extended Learning and Career Programs at Dakota Wesleyan University was the guest speaker. Pauline Shahan, Director of the LPN Program, capped the nursing students.

1990 VICA Leadership Conference and Skill Olympics For the fourth consecutive year, MPCC hosted the VICA state wide high school VICA

competition involving about 400 students from 26 high schools. At the same time, Mid-Plains and Southeast Community College VICA teams competed in welding competition.

1990 First Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Class Graduates Twenty-four women enrolled in the first associate degree class in nursing at Mid-Plains Community College. In 1988 the state legislature changed a law making it possible for Mid-Plains to offer the degree. While the college was waiting to begin the program, an off-campus satellite program was used. The final class from that program graduated in 1991.

1991 Department Technical Students of the Year Community College Month at the Voc-Tech was celebrated by the naming of Vocation Students of the Year. They were Richard Honeywell - Auto Mechanics; Todd Aden - Building Construction; Theresa Ryan - Electronics; Tyrone Shaw - Diesel Mechanics; Michael Barnes - HVAC; Brent Hoover - Drafting and Design; Kevin Nelson - Machine Shop and Welding; Michael Blecha - MLT.

1991 Community College Month Voc-Tech student Debb Witt received special recognition during Community College Month. She was a female student in a non-traditional program at the Voc-Tech. Her choice of occupation made her “non traditional” because she was taking the welding and machine shop coursework, an area of study usually occupied by males.

1991 Open House Vocational/Art Fair On the vocational side of exhibits, 116 projects from eight high schools were entered and judged. Categories were woodworking, drafting and design, welding, and special projects.

1992 Department Vocational Students of the Year Eight vocational students of the year were named. Those honored were Mary M. Loop - Building Construction; Clifford Hills - Electronics; Mark Fischer - Welding and Machine Shop; Brad Gross - Drafting, Design, and CAD Technology; Aaron Lewis - Auto Technology; Shawn Bellew - Diesel Mechanics; Jonathan Johnson - MLT; and John Schultheiss - HVAC.

1992 Mid-Plains Area Open House Vocational/Art Fair Entered in this contest were 546 art projects from 29 high schools and 109 vocational projects from 11 schools. Thirty-eight trophies and 101 medals were given for outstanding and superior art works. Nineteen trophies and 32 medals were given for outstanding and superior vocational work.

1992 Mid-Plains Student Honored Andy Wyman was honored as the 1992 recipient of Nebraska's Outstanding Post-Secondary Student in Vocational Education.

October 1992 First Class of Associate Degree Nurses a Success All fourteen graduates in the first ADN Nursing class passed their state board exams to become registered nurses.

1993 Department Technical Students of the Year Community College Month at the Voc-Tech was celebrated by the naming of Vocational Students of the Year. They were Thaddeus Eckhoff - Welding and Machine Shop; Ryan Krauter - Diesel Mechanics; David Jurjens - Electronics; Michael Hansen - HVAC; Tracy Knepp - Building Construction; and Patricia Blackledge - Nursing.

1993 Spring Open House and Vocational Contest/Art Fair Special events at the Voc-Tech were a miniature tractor pull, an antique engine display, a computerized construction estimates display, masonry project displays, a photography exhibit, and a storage building auction.

1995 Spring Open House and Vocational Contest/Art Fair There were 107 vocational projects entered in the fair. Jose Martinez of North Platte won a plaque for the house plans he submitted. Also, a house constructed by the Voc-Tech Building Construction Program students was auctioned off which sold for \$59,000.

Facilities

Space Needed The mechanical (auto, auto-body, diesel) departments were in great need of shop/lab space since sufficient space was not affordable when the original building was constructed. Consistently large enrollments in all mechanics departments made the need for more space critical.

Original Plan The original plan for enlarging the shops had been to extend them to the north. However, the county surveyor's layout of the property was mistakenly inverted making the main building in the narrowest rather than in the widest part of the property. Consequently, there wasn't sufficient space to enlarge the shops to the north. The revised plan then was to construct a separate building for the mechanical departments to the east of the main Vocational-Technical Building with the adequate amount of space for Auto-Mechanics, Diesel Mechanics and Auto-Body. The temporary Auto-Body Shop would be retooled to give the Electrical Department sufficient space for its program. The current Auto Mechanic

and Diesel Mechanics Shop in the main building would be used to provide more room for Building Construction, Welding and Machine Shop and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Departments.

1987 Building a Diesel Facility Since the Diesel Mechanics program had the most desperate need for more space because of large equipment training and the prospect of providing training for railroad apprentices, it became the first part of the Mechanics Building to be constructed. Auto-Mechanics would temporarily expand into the Diesel Mechanics original shop space. The 21,000 square feet structure of the Diesel Mechanic Building was contracted out by bid to General Constructors for \$282,000. The rest of the building components would be done through instruction to provide some good commercial applications for students and make the building more affordable with the saving of labor costs. The Drafting, Building Constructions, Electrical and HVAC Departments with some help from Maintenance provided this service at the following approximate material costs: site fill \$5,000, approach concrete \$10,000.00, electrical \$52,000, mechanical \$15,000, and Architectural/Engineering fees \$15,000. The construction of the Diesel Mechanics Building was started in the summer of 1987 and was completed in the summer of 1988.

1992 Auto Body Building Space for the large Auto Body enrollments was inadequate, and the temporary facilities didn't provide proper dust control, prep stations, and paint booths. Consequently, with limited funding available, the same construction techniques used for constructing the Diesel Shops were used in building the new Auto Body Shops.

The 13,000 square feet structure for the Auto Body building was built east of the Diesel Mechanics Building leaving space between the two buildings to provide for the future Auto Mechanic's shops. The structure construction was contracted by bid to General Constructors for the amount of \$314,229 on November 4, 1992. The fire safety sprinkler system was \$10,425. The electrical and electronic materials in the amount of \$40,000 were provided by the college. The mechanical system also done by the college amounted to approximately \$29,000. Site fill and concrete driveway/parking cost \$27,400.

The Auto Body Building needed several large components of equipment that would become part of the building. These components were two downdraft prep stations at \$25,000, one downdraft/bake paint booth \$13,004, one rotary air compressor \$10,440, two make-up air heating units \$18,870. This totaled \$129,662 of which \$67,000 came from Federal

Vocational funds, \$31,000 from state economic development funds, and \$31,662 from local Mid-Plains funds.

The construction and equipping of the Auto-Body Building started in November 1992 and was completed in time for the second semester of the 1993-1994 college year. The proposed new Auto Mechanics shops were never built, leaving vacant space between the new Diesel Mechanics shops and the new Auto Body shops.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1984 MPCC Career Assessment

Center History: Beginnings

In 1984, Mid-Plains Technical Community College was awarded a Carl D. Perkins Federal Vocational Education grant to establish a career assessment and testing program to promote and provide career related services to the 18-county area. President Ken Aten and Mr. Jim Doyle, Dean of Vocational Instruction, were the principal administrators involved in securing funds to initiate this project. A program director, Mr. Bill Eakins, and a vocational evaluator, Mr. Bruce Dowse, were hired to develop and implement career awareness and career assessment activities. The program became known as the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area Career Assessment Center.

The Center's major functions were to provide vocational evaluations for state agencies, test and screen applicants for local employers, and create career awareness programs that could be delivered to rural school districts. Approximately 450 adults, post-secondary and secondary students received services from the Center during the initial year of operation. Agreements to provide career assessment and career awareness activities to local agencies, employers and school districts were established to help support and sustain the program in future years.

The Career Assessment Center continued to serve an increasing number of residents and students through the remainder of the 1980's due in part to the changing economic times and the need for career information to plan for future educational and employment opportunities. In 1989,

clients and students receiving services numbered well over 2,000 individuals. Nearly every school in the 18-county area subscribed to the career awareness and career decision-making activities to supplement secondary school guidance programs.

A major step was taken in 1990 when college admissions testing, Transition Services, Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Education Development (GED) and Tech Prep programs were placed under the supervision of Mr. Bill Eakins, Area Dean of Career Services. The Career Assessment Center became a comprehensive career and student support service for the College. Later that year, the dual enrollment program was initiated and continues to be coordinated through this department.

In recent years, employment services, certification/licensure testing and career academies have been added. The Center now serves over 6,000 students and residents annually. As services have expanded in several directions, the department name has been changed to the Mid-Plain Community College Area Career Services Center. Since its inception, the Center has received numerous local, state and national awards and continues to be an innovative leader in approaches to service the public with career and educational opportunities.

1985 Beginnings of a New Program In 1985, MPTCCA received \$50,000 of federal funds to help displaced homemakers become wage earners. Due to the sagging agricultural economy, a similar program was also being considered for displaced farmers.

1986 General Motors Training at Voc-Tech General Motor's automotive technicians received specialized electronics training in the spring of 1986 at Voc-Tech. The College also facilitated such training arrangements with Chrysler, Nissan, and International Harvester.

1987 Student Job Opportunities Cliff Hermance, Director of Placement and Recruitment, reported that some of the best job opportunities were for Licensed Practical Nurses.

1987 Fall Classes in Ogallala Voc-Tech course offerings in Ogallala for the fall of 1987 were Electronics DC and AC, Woodworking Power Tools, and Small Engine Care and Maintenance.

1987 Increase in LPN Enrollments College administrators reported a 60 percent increase in LPN student enrollments in the fall of 1987. Student enrollments at McCook and Valentine were recognized as contributing to the increase.

1987 Discussions with Dakota Wesleyan University In the fall of 1987, there were ongoing discussions between nursing department officials at Voc-Tech and representatives from Dakota Wesleyan University. The two groups intended to work out a “ladder program” so that students in the LPN nursing program could transfer to Dakota Wesleyan to finish a Registered Nurse program.

1989 Good Job Market for Students In the spring of 1989, College officials reported that full-time student enrollment was down about 16 percent. The most likely cause was the improvement of the job market for students.

1989 New Nursing Assistant Class A certified nursing assistant class was begun on June 6, 1989. It was a 75 contact hour course required for a person to be eligible to work as a nursing assistant.

1990 Associate Degree Nursing Mid-Plains Community College received approval from Post-Secondary Coordinating Commission to offer an associate degree in nursing.

1991 University of Nebraska at Kearney Nursing Degree Option MPTCCA LPN graduates who wanted to obtain a BSN degree in nursing were able to do so through a special program at UNK. This option became available through a grant from the Teagle Foundation.

1992 January The results of a survey of recent MPCC graduates conducted by Judy Harms, Director of Placement and Recruiting, indicated that most were employed. About 99% of the graduates of the preceding year had found jobs.

1992 Perkins Educational Act Grant The Mid-Plains Community College Voc-Tech Campus received a \$41,244.00 Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act Grant for the following three years.

1992 GED Honors Nearly 100 students received their general education diplomas at the Mid-Plains Community College annual Adult Basic Education (ABE/GED) Recognition Night.

1992 ADN Graduates Honored The first graduates of the MPCC associate degree nursing program were honored at a banquet held in their honor by NNA (Nebraska Nurses Association) District 7 members.

1993 House Construction For the previous seven years, building construction students at the Voc-Tech had not built a house as a part of their program course work. Voc-Tech President Ken Aten noted that the housing market in North Platte during the 1980's was depressed but had improved in the early 1990's; hence, the return to the house building project for the students.

1993 Women in Transition The Women in Transition program offered free Voc-Tech night classes in non-traditional programs for women. Classes offered were basic auto mechanics, carpentry, power tools and techniques, cabinet making, diesel mechanics, and basic refrigeration. Wanda Vyhnalek was program administrator with help from Marilyn Buker.

1984-1994 Voc-Tech Full-time Students During the period from 1984 to 1994, the number of full-time students ranged from approximately 300 to 375 at the Vocational Technical Campus. Most full-time students attended on campus with the exception of nursing students at McCook and Valentine.

1984-1994 Voc-Tech Part-time Students Part-time student enrollment varied between 850-950 students. Part-time students, more often than not, were night class students. There were part-time students on the main campus location, but part-time enrollments could also be found at off-campus locations: Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine, and McCook. In addition, there were occasional classes in many of the smaller communities.

1984-1994 Degrees and Diplomas For both the Voc-Tech and the McDonald-Belton campus, the total (both locations) number of degrees, certificates, and diplomas for the time period was 2,500.

1984-1994 Voc-Tech Student Progress Vocational-technical students continuing their education (after their time at Voc-Tech) from 1984 to 1994 ranged from 5 percent to 10 percent, except for 1988 since the first LPN students could then continue on into the new Associate Degree program. Consequently, one third of the 33 graduating LPN's continued on to receive their Associate Degree in Nursing. The percentage of students completing their vocational programs who found employment

varied from approximately 85 percent to 95 percent over the ten year period.

VT students during this time period found employment - 62 percent to 72 percent - within the 18 county Area. When these students were combined with students who found employment outside of the 18 county Area, a total of 90 to 95 percent of the students were employed within the State.

Program Completions for Voc-Tech

| | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| *Trade & Tech. Occupations | 90 | 88 | 81 | 102 | 72 | 72 | 62 | 73 | 74 | 73 |
| Business Occp./ Including Computer-Data | 10 | 4 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 11 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| Health Occp. | 63 | 53 | 44 | 57 | 61 | 60 | 58 | 52 | 74 | 65 |
| Annual total | 163 | 145 | 134 | 163 | 139 | 143 | 126 | 133 | 155 | 147 |

*See narrative which follows Table.

In the tabular data above, Trade and Technical Occupations included combined data from the following programs Building Construction, Drafting, HVAC, Electrical, Electronics, Auto Mechanics, Diesel Mechanics, Auto Body, and Welding, Health Occupations included combined data for Practical Nursing, Dental Assistant, and Optometric Assistant programs. For these programs, the ten-year totals were as follows: Trade and Technical Occupations - 787; Business Occupations, including Computer data processing - 74; and Health Occupations - 587. The combined total for these programs was 1,448.

Graduation and Requirements

The requirements for degrees and diplomas previously established continued with little modification in the divisions of Arts and Sciences and Business. However, in Health Occupations and Trade-Technical Occupations because of need or lack of interest by prospective students and/or employers, some programs were added, deleted or combined.

Health Occupations

Associate Degree Nursing was added in 1990. It was a two-year, five-semester program leading to a licensed Registered Nurse (RN). Practical Nursing continued with an added semester available for those who wanted advanced placement into the Associate Degree Nursing Program. Over the 10-year period, 99% of the students passed the state board certification exams with much higher average scores than the state and national average scores.

The Optometric Assisting program was discontinued in 1995 because of several years of low enrollment.

Trade and Technical Occupations

In 1985 the Building Construction and Architectural Drafting Department developed some common curricula in supporting classes which because of moderate enrollments students from both programs could take together thus making the sizes of the combined departmental classes viable.

Industrial Training

At various times since the beginning of the Voc-Tech College, Mid-Plains provided specific training, primarily in the Trade and Technical divisions for local industries.

Apprenticeship and Craft Shop training in conjunction with Union Pacific Railroad was developed to supply needed training for the repair and maintenance of diesel locomotives and was in operation by 1994 on the Vocational-Technical campus. Most of the Craft Shop training was specialized instruction pertaining to various locomotives and their components with the instructors usually provided by the railroad. The Apprentice Training was provided by Vocational-Technical instructors utilizing and adapting parts of their regular curricula in the Diesel Mechanics, Electrical and Welding, and Machine Shop Departments. Since the apprentices needed only part of the complete departmental curricula, the scheduling of classes was rearranged so that those needed for apprentices were in the morning and those needed only by the other students were in the afternoon. This way the classes could accommodate all students at the same time as long as the total number in the class did not become too large.

1992-93 Vocational-Technical On-going, Part-time, Off-Campus Classes
MPCC Voc-Tech course delivery service was expanded to various area

communities. A sample of course delivery comes from the 1992-1993 year:

| Course | Location | Number of Students |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Basic Nurse's Aide | Valentine | 9 |
| Advanced Nurse's Aide | Broken Bow | 6 |
| Basic Nurse's Aide | Linden Manor, N.P. | 8 |
| Upholstery | Curtis | 7 |
| Upholstery | Brule | 10 |
| Upholstery | V-T Special Class | 7 |
| Welding and Machine Shop | Mobile Metals Van, Arnold | 6 |
| Welding and Machine Shop | Mobile Metals Van, Broken Bow | 11 |
| Harvard Graphics | Union Pacific R.R. | 9 |
| DOS Computer Operations | Union Pacific R.R. | 7 |
| Computer Applications | Ogallala | 17 |
| Computer Applications | Valentine | 21 |
| Computer Applications | Broken Bow | 23 |

1994 Voc-Tech Will Train UP Apprentices Voc-Tech Campus President Ken Aten announced that the Voc-Tech Campus would train 12 apprentices - 6 electrical and 6 mechanical - from Union Pacific Railroad.



1994 August Sixty-one Students Awarded Mid-Plains Diplomas

Vocational and technical diplomas and certificates were presented to 61 MPCC Voc-Tech graduates. Marge Harouf, Assistant Commissioner of Education, gave the commencement address.

1995 Information Technology

The North Platte *Telegraph* contained an article by Todd von Kampen on the importance of community colleges as they prepared information technology savvy students. President Ken Aten affirmed that the Voc-Tech had instructional programs to give young people the building blocks needed including courses in managing local area networks, workstations, and servers.

Unusual / Notable

1986 Anniversary Celebration Both North Platte campus locations conducted a 20 year (since the opening of MPCC) celebration in May. Activities and events were displays of artwork, special vocation exhibits, a choir performance, a play, and a free disco dance.

Sources Consulted 1984-1994

| | |
|--|---|
| Mid-Plains Community College Catalog | 1985-1987, 1988-1990 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Catalog | 1990-1992, 1993-1996 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 18 May, 1985 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 17 May, 1986 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 16 May, 1987 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 14 May, 1988 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 20 May, 1989 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Commencement Program | 19 May, 1990 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 18 May, 1991 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 16 May, 1992 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 15 May, 1993 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 14 May, 1994 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 20 May, 1995 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 10 Aug, 1991 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 8 Aug, 1992 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 6 Aug, 1993 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 12 Aug, 1994 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Technical-Scholastic Contest | 1986 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Inter-High Vocational Fair, Art Fair, and Open House | 1985 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Graduate Employment Survey | 1985-1986 1986-1987 1987-1988 1988-1989 1989-1990 |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| | 1990-1991 |
| | 1991-1992 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Annual Graduate Placement Report | 1992-1993 1993-1994 1994-1995 |
| First and Second Semester Full- and Part-time Student Enrollment Bid Requests for Electrical, Plumbing, and Mechanical Materials for Diesel Building August 1987 | |
| Architectural Plans for Diesel Mechanics Building | |
| Bid Tabulation Sheet for New Diesel Shop | |
| Auto Body Building Construction Cost Sheets | |
| Auto Body Equipment Costs and Funding Sheet | |

Chapter 4

1994-2000 Changes and Transitions

Change and progress had been a part of the Mid-Plains Community College Area and its colleges since the formation of the Area in 1974. However, the pace and magnitude of change increased significantly during the 1994-2000 period, and the changes were experienced in all areas and all levels of the MPCCA system.

What follows in this front piece is a summary of some of these changes, some of which impacted students more directly than others. However, looking back on the time period perhaps with a bit more perspective, all that are listed were significant and important.

- **Changes in Administration**

In other locations within this book, there are glimpses of the numerous changes in administrative structures in the colleges which comprise MPCCA. One noticeable factor for the 1994 to 2000 period was the increased rate of change. An example comes when viewing the top administrative post in the Area, that of the Area President/Chancellor. Dr. William Hasemeyer was the Area's founding CEO beginning his duties in 1974 and continuing on until his retirement in June of 1994, a period of 20 years. His replacement, Dr. Greg Fitch, served from September of 1994 to December of 1997. Following Dr. Fitch, Dr. Paul Dauphinais and a small council continued on in an interim capacity until Dr. George Mihel began his term in July of 1998 and was the President until 2002. The pattern of relatively rapid changes continued on for a period of time.

- **Changes in Faculty**

By the last five years of the 20th century, MPCCA's veteran, dedicated faculty was beginning to change because of aging. During the 1997-98 year, survey work was completed to investigate the age structure of the full-time faculty. Findings were that of the 81 full-time faculty 36 or 44 percent were at or above 51 years of age. A number of faculty members who

were in this group had actually begun their careers when the North Platte College and the Voc-Tech opened in the mid-1960's. Faculty change was happening and would continue to happen for the foreseeable future. Since faculty members were and are the main point of contact for MPCCA's students, these changes in personnel were noticeable.

- **Changes in buildings and infrastructure**

Looking back to this period of time, it might seem that physical plant changes were nearly non-existent. However, that would not be true.

1. The greatest amount of physical plant change between 1994 and 2000 was at the Voc-Tech campus where new accommodations were made for the electrical program. Also, the growing partnership between Union Pacific and MPCCA was evidenced by the remodeling of one entire building for training U.P. employees. Also, there were changes made to accommodate distance learning delivery of Licensed Practical Nurse coursework.
2. Across the Interstate, there were smaller but still important changes taking place in the main office area, faculty offices, and some of the classrooms. Also, an on-going conversation at McDonald-Belton about the need for a science and technology wing was documented in the 1997-2000 MPCCA Strategic Plan.
3. At McCook, serious debate continued on the need for a performing arts/community activities building. For the first time, this project was listed in the 1997-2000 MPCCA Strategic Plan.
4. The Mid-Plains Area Office, a building that had served as central administrative offices since the 1970's, was finally sold during the period from 1994-2000. Central administration moved to the campus locations.

- **Changes wrought by increased external regulation, accountability, and accreditation.**

The early beginnings of what would become much more stringent accountability in colleges and universities could be traced to

the final years of the decade of the 1980's. One at first little-noticed regulation that was a key trigger occurred in 1988. The U.S. Department of Education directed the six major regional accrediting associations that the colleges and universities which they accredited would fall under a new regulation. The regulation was that all regionally accredited institutions would develop a formal, organized plan to assess student academic achievement. The plan could include conventional grades, but it had to include other forms of student assessment as well. If the colleges and universities did not comply within a reasonable amount of time, they would lose all of the federal financial aid available to their students.

The colleges of the Mid-Plains Area, like others in the state, had done some work with bits and pieces of assessment at various levels; however, they had not formulated a systematic, organized assessment plan. It sounded simple; it sounded like something that could be accomplished in a short period of time, but it was not so. Many faculty and administrators were involved. Most of the decade of the 1990's was devoted to developing the plan and the process; in this, Mid-Plains Community College Area was not alone. As time passed, students began to notice assessment tests and surveys that were normed instruments. In this way MPCCA's students were able to understand better how they compared with other public two-year college students in matters of academic achievement.

Beyond the matters of an assessment plan, there were other forms of accountability and regulation which were either strengthened or were entirely new.

- **Electronic distance delivery of substantial numbers of classes.** In the early 1990's the Widmayer Consulting firm examined higher education in Nebraska and noted that it was possible colleges and universities were not entirely ready for the potential challenges of the 1990's. Primarily, the consultants were looking at the changes electronic technology would bring. This conclusion was true for the MPTCCA system.

In 1995, MPCCA joined the Southwest Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium which was comprised of 15 high schools and two Educational Service Units. The technology involved was an early form of interactive fiber-optic.

In order to facilitate instruction via this new technology, a number of faculty members went through special training. One English faculty member, Jerry Ulrich, may serve as an example. Jerry enrolled in special training seminars to learn about using the new teaching medium. He indicated he had to re-think the whole notion of audience and how a teacher would deal effectively with students at some distant location. He began teaching two distance delivery English composition classes in the fall of 1997.

By the fall of 1997, students in this part of Nebraska had the opportunity to enroll in seven classes taught over satellite and 10 classes over the interactive fiber-optic system. An additional 60 hours of classes were scheduled over the satellite system for down-linking from universities, state colleges, and other community colleges. The new distance technologies were used to deliver “for credit” classes as well as some “non-credit” community services classes.

One of the concerns of the time was whether this new course delivery technology would work for all students or just for some and which ones those might be. As the years have passed and the new teaching technologies have become established, this original concern does not appear to have been warranted *NSBEA Today*, 5 1997 2.

- **Changes in the administrative/faculty Area committee structures**

The early committee structures at McCook, McDonald-Belton, and Voc-Tech were developed out of individual campus needs; and because of those beginnings, they were not necessarily organized the same. However, because patterns of student enrollment growth during the decade of the 1980’s and at the urging of the North Central Association, there was a need to bring more uniformity to the Area organizational structure, including the committee structure. In the spring and summer semesters of 1997, a special “Committee on Committees” was established—Area-wide—to review carefully the entire committee system. As a result of this work, a uniform area system was developed which included the President’s Council, seven Area Councils, and campus levels committees only as needed. Representation on the the President’s Council and the Area Councils came from each of the MPCCA

campus locations. Also, MPCCA's students were represented on the newly organized or reorganized councils and committees.

- **Changes in instructional programs to benefit students:**

1. While not a distinct instructional program, a major change during this period of time involved instructional/academic computing infrastructure. Instruction computing hardware and software needed to be substantially strengthened by the mid-1990's, and this began to take place as hundreds of new computers and miles of cable were put in place. It was a steep curve of improvement that occurred over the six years between 1994 and 2000.
2. Along with the upgrade in instruction computing came two new programs that were very much technology related. The first was Information Technology which was a substantial upgrade from the old Academic Computing program. The Information Technology program was available to students at both North Platte and McCook locations. In a *Telegraph* article dated 14 1 1997, an unnamed writer commented "Changes in technology have put the spotlight on community colleges, where students are trained and retrained on the latest equipment in such fields as auto mechanics, nursing, and computers."
3. A second new program developed and approved was the Electro-Mechanical program developed at the Voc-Tech in cooperation with Union Pacific officials. Along with this Associate Degree program, the Voc-Tech in cooperation with Union Pacific offered many in-service update courses for U.P. employees.
4. Portions of the LPN program were electronically delivered to McCook.
5. Women's softball was added to the curriculum and activities at McCook.

- **Substantial changes in the Management Information System (MIS) for the Area.**

The absence of a quality Area-wide MIS system was clearly a deficiency by the mid-1990's. Prior to the advent of such a system,

what MPCCA had was a patchwork quilt of computer networks that were connected, if at all, in only limited ways. There were at least four such systems: 1) there was a home-grown network at MCC; 2) there was a similar but not identical home-grown system at McDonald-Belton, 3) there was yet another home-crafted system at Voc-Tech, and 4) there was an NCR based system for business purposes at the Area Office.

The move to a new Area-wide MIS system was not entirely smooth, but it progressed over the period of years from 1994-1999 (MPCCA Self-Study 1999 84-85). Important steps along the way were the following:

1994: Voc-Tech and McDonald-Belton campus personnel began exchanging files electronically on a limited basis.

1995: An electronic file server was added to allow file sharing between the administrative offices and the two North Platte campus locations.

1996: Internet connections were completed between North Platte College locations and MCC in 1996 with the addition of a T1 communications line and establishment of Local Area Networks.

1997: The Area Office was connected to the Internet, and new transitional business function software replaced the previous NCR payroll, purchasing, and financial software and hardware.

Also, during the 1996-1997 academic year, an MPCCA Computer Task Force was formed. The Task Force had a number of jobs to do, but the most important was to identify Management Information System software which would be appropriate and sufficient for the entire college system. The Task Force worked on a Request for Proposal form (RFP) which contained over 100 pages and several hundred items. The RFP was completed by late summer of 1997 after which the process of soliciting vendors and bids to submit to vendors commenced.

1998: The Computer Task Force received bids back from vendors, had on-site visits and presentations from vendors, evaluated the products, and by March 25, 1998, the Task Force

recommended to the Area Board that Computer Management and Development Systems (CMDS) software system be purchased. The new MIS software contained admissions, registration, alumni/development, business office functions, and human resources modules.

1999: On July 1, 1999, the CMDS MIS system was switched on; the “go live” date had arrived.

In the months after the advent of the CMDS MIS system, it became much clearer that the quiet but progressive impact of the MIS system would become a driving force in binding the Area into one cohesive unit.

MPCCA BOARD OF GOVERNORS 1994-2000

1995 MPCCA Board Members were Alan Hirschfeld (Chairman), Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Lamoine Carmichael, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

1996 MPCCA Board Members were George Huebner (Chairman), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Robert Boyer, Max Hanson, Leonard Farrell, Lamoine Carmichael, Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, Louis Stithem, and Jane Hornung.

1997 MPCCA Board Members were George Huebner (Chairman), Glenn Colson, Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Dick Thompson, Dale Wahlgren, Harold Bennett, George Ed Moore, Louis Stithem, and Jane Hornung.

1998 MPCCA Board Members were Glenn Colson (Chairman), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Dick Thompson, Dale Wahlgren, Harold Bennett, George Ed Moore, Louis Stithem, George Huebner, and Jane Hornung.

1999 MPCCA Board Members were Glenn Colson (Chairman), Alan Hirschfeld, Jim Doyle, Dale Poore, Betty Wadewitz, Dale Wahlgren, Harold Bennett, George Ed Moore, Louis Stithem, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

2000 MPCCA Board Members were Alan Hirschfeld (Chairman), Glenn Colson, Dale Poore, Betty Wadewitz, Max Hanson, Dale Wahlgren,

Harold Bennett, George Ed Moore, Louis Stithem, Kent Miller, and Jane Hornung.

AREA ADMINISTRATION: 1994-2000

Administrators and Staff

1994-1995

| | |
|---|---|
| Area President | Dr. William G. Hasemeyer (Retired June 30, 1994; followed by Dr. Gregory Fitch on July 1, 1994). |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arensdorf |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon (Wiezorek) Brown |
| Public Information Director | Greg Fritz |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Foundation and Grants | Chuck Schwartz |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |

1995-1996

| | |
|---|---|
| Area President | Dr. Gregory Fitch (Began July 1, 1994) |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arensdorf |
| Data Processing Manager | Alice Billesbach |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Greg Fritz |

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |
| Human Resource Director | Joan Ryan |

1996-1997

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Area President | Dr. Gregory Fitch |
| Director of Budget and Accounting | Marvin Arensdorf |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Greg Fritz |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |
| Human Resource Director | Joan Ryan |

1997-1998

| | |
|---|--|
| Area President | Dr. Gregory Fitch (Resigns December 1997) |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Marvin Arensdorf (Retires December 1997) |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Chuck Salestrom |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Director of Human Resources | John Shackelford |

1998-1999

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Area President | Dr. Paul Dauphinais |
| (Interim until June 1998; followed by Dr. George Mihel in July 1998). | |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Paul Foster |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Chuck Salestrom |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Director of Human Resources | John Shackelford |
| Computer Technician | Tim Hall |

1999-2000

| | |
|---|--|
| Area President | Dr. George Mihel (Began July 1, 1998) |
| Dir. of Budgeting & Accounting | Paul Foster |
| Director of Adult Basic Education (ABE) | Deanna Odean |
| Payroll | Mary Ginapp |
| Accounts Payable | Sharon Brown |
| Public Information Director | Chuck Salestrom |
| Director of Institutional Research | Dr. Ford M. Craig |
| Director of Human Resources | John Shackelford |
| MIS Coordinator | Tim Hall |

Administrative Processes

N**ew Chancellor** Dr. Greg Fitch was named the new leader of the Mid-Plains Area replacing Dr. William Hasemeyer who retired. The new salary of \$88,000, not including benefits was \$11,000 above that

which Dr. Hasemeyer had received. Dr. Ford Craig was selected to serve as the Board operations person until September when Dr. Fitch began his duties. The Board officially granted the title of chancellor emeritus to Dr. Hasemeyer.

1994 Mid-Plains Community College Foundation Fund Drive On September 24, Mid-Plains Community College Area Foundation Director Chuck Schwartz announced the first Foundation Fund Drive had taken in \$32,250.

1994 Board Member Max Hanson Resigns On October 26, 1994, Max Hanson resigned from the Board of Governors.

1995 President Resigns On June 28, 1995, Dr. William A Griffin, Jr. resigned as president of McDonald-Belton Campus so he might accept another college position.

1995 New Board Member Glenn Colson was seated as Board of Governors member replacing Max Hanson January 1, 1995.

1995 Chuck Schwartz Resigns On January 25, 1995, Chuck Schwartz, Executive Director of the Mid-Plains Community College Foundation, resigned.

1995 MCC Retains Identity Mid-Plains Board of Governors approved a memorandum on the reorganization plan that combined the two North Platte colleges into one college with two campuses, and McCook was to remain identified as a college under the plan as reported in the *McCook Daily Gazette*, 17 1995.

1995-1996 Athlete Recruiting The Area Board of Governors questioned athletic recruiting/screening practices following the arrest of a student athlete. Board members Dale Poore and Hoagy Carmichael were concerned about public reaction and future enrollment.

1995-1996 Operation Starlight Proposal Cuts Top College Post The Chancellor of the Mid-Plains Community College Area proposed the elimination of two positions at MCC, including the MCC President position and officer manager/registrar. In a statement before the Board, Chancellor Fitch stated, "We are going to sing from the same hymnal. We need the right people in the right jobs at the right time." (*McCook Daily Gazette* 25 1 1996 1)

1995-1996 Preparation for Starlight Hearing On February 13, 1996, the MCC faculty issued a "Possible Questions" list for consideration

of patrons planning to attend the hearing on administrative changes scheduled for February 22.

The McCook *Daily Gazette* reported that over 450 people attended the hearing where opposition was expressed concerning the Operation Starlight proposal, and strong support was given for studying the proposal and not making an immediate decision.

Because of the high interest in the Board meeting (where there was to be a decision on Operation Starlight) which was held at North Platte, the McCook Industrial Development Corporation and the McCook Community College Foundation sponsored vans to transport patrons. After ten people spoke at the meeting against the proposal Chancellor Fitch had labeled "Operation Starlight," and public comment was limited to thirty minutes, the Board voted 10-1 to table the item until the Board's next meeting on March 27.

After the March 27, 1996, meeting, Dennis Berry, McCook City Councilman, said, "The handwriting was pretty well on the wall," when the Area Board voted 7-4 to adopt Operation Starlight. Board members Hoagy Carmichael, Dale Poore, Jim Doyle, and Leonard Farrell voted against the proposal. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 28 3 1996 1) The plan as passed contained the following provisions:

- eliminate the position of President at the three Mid-Plain's Area campuses
- form a Presidential cabinet consisting of four deans in North Platte and three deans in McCook
- realign several other positions throughout the Area
- merge the leadership of the two North Platte campuses.

A special meeting was scheduled in April to hear personnel requests and appeals following the recommendations made at the March meeting. At the April 26 meeting, the Board reaffirmed its actions and eliminated the positions of president and office manager and approved a reduction-in-force layoff.

1996 March 1 The Board approved hiring the architectural firm of Jack D. Gardner and Associate to develop a master plan for a possible math-science wing at the MPCCA McDonald-Belton campus.

The Board also 1) approved a request by McCook Community College to advertise for a business instructor and a computer science instructor with money from unfilled English and science faculty positions; 2) recognized the physical plant staff at the Voc-Tech Campus and the North Platte Fire Department for their response to a January 20 fire in a maintenance building at the Campus; 3) received Mid-Plains annual graduate report for the 1994-1995 year. The report showed that 97 percent of graduates who took jobs stayed in the state; 73 percent of them stayed in the 18-county area; 4) reviewed a timeline for drafting and approving the Mid-Plains Area 1996-1997 budget; 5) approved a service agreement with the Great Plains Communications, Inc. of Blair, which would supply fiber-optic telephone services to the Southwest Distance Learning Network. McCook and the two North Platte campuses were linked to the network. MPCCA had received a state lottery grant to outfit two-way television classrooms tying together 25 southwest Nebraska school districts, two educational service units, Mid-Plains and McCook campuses, and the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis; and 6) approved a \$15,000 bid from Mogis Auto Mall in North Platte for a car to serve both campuses; and 7) recognized Voc-Tech instructors Gordon Koch and Richard Stephens as winners of the 1996 Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

1996 March 7 MPCCA Will Reorganize The Board of Governors voted 7-4 to reorganize the Area into a two-college system with an Area chancellor and no campus presidents. In addition an advisory council was formed consisting of seven deans, four in North Platte and three in McCook, who would report to the chancellor. Ken Aten was to remain as dean of vocational-technical services, and McCook Dean of Instruction John Rucker was to become dean of his campus.

Also, the tuition and technology fee was increased by \$2 per credit hour, and a 50 cent per credit hour technology fee was instituted.

In addition, the Board upheld the decision to eliminate the three office manager positions in the Area.

1996 April 2 College Funds Back in the Budget The legislature voted to restore \$108,939 for community colleges in the state budget.

1996 April 4 MPCCA Board Hear Appeals The Board scheduled a grievance hearing for five employees whose positions were eliminated.

1996 April 24 Designated Leader of McCook Resigns John Rucker, Dean of Instruction at McCook since January 1993, said he will leave

to become Dean of Instruction and Chief Academic Officer at Crowder College in Neosho, Missouri.

1996 April 25 MPCCA Board Makes Layoffs Key elements of a reorganization plan for the Mid-Plains College Area were reaffirmed at the April 24, 1996, Board of Governors meeting when the Board confirmed the layoffs of five employees. Those affected were Bob Smallfoot, McCook Community College President and four other Mid-Plains employees: Leila Koettner, of McCook; Area data processing manager, Alice Billesbach; and campus office managers, Marge Wilson of McCook, Genevieve Sharp at North Platte McDonald-Belton, and Ginger Snodgrass North Platte Voc-Tech.

The Board also 1) accepted a \$30,036 bid from Boehm Electric of McCook to replace the electrical system in the McCook Campus McMillen Hall, 2) accepted a \$16,125 bid to remodel a room at the McCook Campus Barrett Hall as a two-way television classroom. (The Campus had received grants totaling \$55,000 for equipment and other needed items); and 3) agreed to seek bids for repairs to the parking lots at the McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech campuses. (The projects were estimated to cost \$54,000 at McDonald-Belton and \$80,000 at Voc-Tech); and 4) approved payment of \$887 in annual dues to 1996-1997 to the Association of Community College Trustees in Washington, D.C.

1996 April 25 McCook Theater A mostly vacant theater in downtown McCook could be renovated as a first step toward enlarging the fine arts programs at McCook Community College. Foundation President Norma Stevens asked the MPCCA Board of Governors to move up plans for a fine arts and performing arts complex at the McCook Campus. Stevens reminded the Board members that the Board had added the idea to Mid-Plain's long-range plans in 1992.

The Board also 1) left room and board rates at the McCook campus residence halls unchanged for 1996-1997; 2) accepted the resignation of Ivan Koch and Roger Babcock, who taught English and political science respectively and Elizabeth Larson, consumer economics instructor at McCook; and 3) approved the bid of \$25,125 from Gateway 2000 Factory Outlet for 15 notebook computers and \$4,369 from Data Comm Warehouse for 15 portable printers.

1996 April 30 Mid-Plains to Get Grant from U.S. West Mid-Plains Community College would receive an \$18,000 grant from U. S. West Foundation to train teachers and develop courses for a two-way

television network. The Mid-Plains grant would be used in support of the Southwest Distance Learning Project. It included North Platte and 24 other southwest Nebraska school districts, MCC, North Platte campuses, and the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, as well as Educational Service Units 15 and 16.

1996 May MPCCA Enrollment Drop The fall enrollment at the MPCCA campuses showed a significant drop. The fall enrollment numbers for all full-time and part-time students had decreased from 3,260 in 1993 to 2,566 in 1996, a drop of 20%. The trend was a concern for administrators at the time.

1996 May 23 Board Votes to Hire Accounting Firm At the May meeting the Board of Governors voted to hire Coopers and Lybrand firm to do an “investigative audit” of Mid-Plains operations. The Board also 1) accepted the resignation of John Rucker, campus dean-designate at McCook Community College and Don Kuhlman, a building construction and architectural drafting instructor at North Platte Voc-Tech Campus; 2) hired three people to fill teaching jobs at MCC and North Platte McDonald-Belton Campus; and McCook part-time business instructor Donna Harr would be up-graded to full-time, Chattamvulli Rajan would become a computer science instructor, and in North Platte Kent Weilage would become a McDonald-Belton business instructor; 3) accepted two bids for resurfacing parking lots as the two North Platte Campuses; 4) approved continuation of the Voc-Tech diesel mechanics program and voted to recommend renewal of the diesel program by the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education; and 5) accepted bids from Gateway 2000 Factory Outlet of North Sioux City, South Dakota, of \$10,170 for six laptop computers for McCook’s community services division and nine desktop computers for various Voc-Tech departments.

1996 June 27 Board of Governors Meeting The Board approved hiring 1) Ray Ortiz to teach vocal and instrumental music, 2) Pat Velicky and Roger Volentine to fill two positions in the math department, and 3) David Steven Owen as a political science instructor. The Board accepted 1) the resignation of Althea Stevens, computer science instructor at McDonald-Belton; a bid of \$116,147 by Rosenberg Insurance Agency to continue providing a variety of insurance coverage for Mid-Plains until 1999. The Board also changed the building and construction and drafting programs at Voc-Tech from two-year to one-year programs and approved a state-mandated review of Mid-Plains office technology programs at McCook and North Platte.

1996 July 25 Board Meeting An attempt to settle an impasse over salary with one of the bargaining units was the subject of a special Board meeting that was held later. At the July Board meeting, the Mid-Plains Board 1) voted to support the idea of leasing the McCook Fox Theater on a part-time basis; 2) endorsed a plan to build a monument on the McCook Campus marking the 75th Anniversary, 3) sent the McCook College Foundation a proposed agreement outlining services that it and Mid-Plains will provide each other, 4) hired Ron Block to teach English at North Platte's McDonald-Belton Campus, 5) accepted the resignation of Ronald Norrie as an instructor and department head in the Building Construction department at North Platte's Voc-Tech Campus, 6) approved a \$9,965 bid from Multiple Zone International to buy five laptop computers for the McCook Campus Community Services division, and 7) agreed to seek bids to rebuild a Voc-Tech maintenance building that burned in January and to replace a 20-passenger bus lost in that fire.

1996 July Mid-Plains Community College Area Accused of Bias The former office managers of the Mid-Plains College Area two North Platte campuses have accused college officials of discrimination in complaints before the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission.

1996 August 8 Salary Dispute Finally Settled After a lengthy impasse, the dispute between the Area Board and the Mid-Plains Education Association which represents the faculty at both McCook Community College and McDonald-Belton Campus was finally resolved.

1996 Mid-Plains Community College Nursing Department Receives National Accreditation After 25 years, Mid-Plains Community College Practical Nursing Program received accreditation for five years from the National League for Nursing.

1996 August 28 MPCCA Board of Governors OK's Mission Statement The mission statement had been on the table for some time regarding the inclusion of one sentence. The Board ultimately voted to delete the disputed sentence and passed the motion. The Board voted 5-4 to take a \$3 charge for a student photo identification card out of the annual activity fee. The Board also 1) agreed to a resolution adding Mid-Plains \$50,000 annual cost of taking part in the Southwest Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium to an inter-local agreement covering the project; 2) declined interest in a bequest from the estate of a Seattle man (Dr. Henry Weeth) in favor of McCook College Foundation; 3) hired Dennis Ekdahl to head the building construction program at North Platte's Voc-Tech Campus and Karen J. Jones of McCook as a family and consumer

science instructor; 4) accepted a bid of \$5,895 from Volz Plumbing and Heating of McCook to replace the air conditioning system in the lower floor of the McCook campus Von Reisen Library; 5) awarded a variety of bids totaling \$29,755 to update the computer systems in the Mid-Plains Area office in North Platte; 6) accepted a \$14,625 bid from Phones Etc. of McCook for the McCook Campus; 7) awarded a \$50,493 bid to Davey Coach Sales of Denver for a 20-passenger bus to replace the one lost in a January fire in a Voc-Tech maintenance building.

1996 September 18, Mid-Plains Area Budget Cuts As a result of state mandated lids on property taxes, the Area Board needed to reduce spending by 3.7 percent.

1996 September Enrollment Increase A 3.5 percent increase in full-time enrollment at McCook over the preceding year plus nearly even numbers at the two North Platte campuses led to a 3.3 percent increase over the preceding year for the Area. The Board also 1) accepted the resignation of public information director Greg Fritz, 2) adopted new job descriptions and pay scales for Mid-Plains computer technicians, 3) approved a new plan to guide pay raises for Mid-Plains academic faculty members that are based on professional improvement, 4) accepted a low bid of \$114,549 from General Constructors of North Platte to rebuild a Voc-Tech maintenance building destroyed in a January fire, 5) rescinded an August motion that awarded a \$14,625 bid to Phones Etc of McCook to install a new telephone system on the McCook Campus, 6) approved location of a “foundation reference center” in the McCook Campus Von Reisen library, and 7) agreed to seek bids to replace an analog satellite dish at the McCook Campus library with a large, digital-based dish.

1996 September 70th Birthday Devoted alumni and faithful friends returned to the McCook Community College for a 70th anniversary homecoming. Members of the original graduating class shared memories of their days as students at Nebraska’s original two-year college.

1996 October Board Meeting The board voted 10-0 in favor of hiring Nancee Bailey as McCook Campus Dean to fill the vacancy left when John Rucker accepted a post at a college in Missouri. (Editor’s note: Subsequently, Dr. Bailey declined this position. The leadership post at McCook was filled for the first part of 1997 on an interim basis by Dr. Jo Keeler, long-time administrator at MCC).

In other Board-related matters: 1) the Board received an update from Dennis Baack on community college budget matters across the state, 2)

voted to seek a replacement for Greg Fritz who had been public information director, 3) ratified a contract with the Mid-Plains Vocational Educator's Association, and 4) received an \$8,000 donation from Nebraska Public Power District for student scholarships.

1996 School-to-Work Agreement The Mid-Plains Board of Governors agreed to join three regional business-education groups in offering chances for students to explore career options under federal "school-to-work" grants. The partnerships would strengthen MPCCA ten-year commitment to helping students explore career opportunities.

1996 November Board Meeting Good News in Audit Report The Board of Governors received and approved the annual audit report from the accounting firm of McChesney, Martin, and Sagehorn. Several minor concerns were mentioned, but the report was basically positive. In other business, the Mid-Plains board 1) adopted policy changes arising from negotiations between Mid-Plains and two of the employee unions. (One policy change outlined work and office schedules for faculty members at North Platte's Voc-Tech Campus. The other unified policies on bereavement leave for faculty members and classified staff throughout the Area); 2) accepted four bids for computer equipment to be used throughout the Area; 3) approved \$28,251 in direct purchases of one diesel engine each from Cummins, Detroit, and Caterpillar for use in Voc-Tech classes; and 4) accepted a \$5,931 from Electronic School Supply Inc. for oscilloscopes for Voc-Tech classes.

1996 November Mid-Plains Gets OK to Continue Diesel Program Mid-Plains Community College Voc-Tech diesel mechanics technology program received a vote of confidence from the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. This was the result of the recommendation the College made to the Commission at the May Board meeting.

1996 December Mid-Plains Board Split Over Fitch The controversy which had enveloped Dr. Fitch almost from his arrival in North Platte took on a new life when the Board in December began discussing the pros and cons of offering a contract extension. The Board had until February 15 to renew the contract or allow it to expire. At the December meeting, the board voted 6-5 to offer Dr. Fitch an extended contract. At this same meeting, the Board received the Coopers and Lybrand "investigative audit" report which detailed a number of irregularities which were apparently common practice in the Area.

The Board agreed to continue talks with the owner of the McCook Fox Theater. The McCook College Foundation authorized \$30,000 to support plans to lease the theater.

The Board also agreed to readjust pay scales and duties for the Mid-Plains Area's receptionist-secretaries as part of the latest phase of the "right-sizing" reorganization plan.

In other personnel matters, the Board 1) authorized the hiring of a full-time receptionist-secretary for the McCook campus recruitment-placement office, 2) approved a new designation for Diane Bowman of the Voc-Tech assessment center as an administrative-exempt employee with an annual contract, 3) adjusted McDonald-Belton faculty member Ron Block's salary schedule placement to reflect new duties and the completion of a master's degree, 4) accepted the resignation of McCook computer instructor Chattamvelli Rajan, who was hired for the fall semester. Rajan had resigned to work on his master's thesis.

The Board also 1) voted 9-2 to increase Mid-Plains one-time matriculation fee from \$10 to \$12.50 to cover increased testing costs. The new fee would take effect with the summer session; and 2) unanimously dropped a \$10 admission application fee beginning with the 1997 summer session.

1997 Tuition Increase The Board increase student tuition for the fall semester of 1997 from \$30 per semester credit hour to \$32.

1997-1998 Lighting For Campus The Area Board of Governors approved acceptance of 13 lights from the McCook College Foundation that they purchased at auction from the city of McCook. The lights had previously lighted Norris Avenue. The lights were refurbished by the McCook Lions Club, and the Lions, along with the MCC Student Senate, volunteered to pour the concrete base with concrete donated by the Lions Club.

1997 Driver's Education at MCC The Board of Governors agreed to a plan to offer a driver's education class on a trial basis in the summer of 1997 at MCC. The program would be administered through the community services office. Students would be charged \$150 for a four-week class.

1997 Agreement with UPRR Approved The MPCCA Board of Governors approved a training program with Union Pacific regarding instructional delivery to a new Adult Basic Education center at Bailey

Yard in North Platte. The railroad built the center and agreed to pay for the instructor.

1997 Tuition Waivers At their April meeting, the Board of Governors approved 65 tuition waivers for Area students who planned to attend one of the MPCCA locations in the fall.

1998 February Board Members Honored Several MPCCA Board Members received honors at the Nebraska Community College Association annual meeting in Lincoln. NCCA awarded Louis Stithem the NCCA Service Award, and Kent Miller was awarded lifetime membership.

1998 Tuition and Dorm Rates Tuition rates were raised to \$40 a credit hour, a 25 percent increase, to begin the fall of 1998. The decision was made at the February 26, 1998, Board of Governor's meeting. A dorm rate increase of \$40 per semester for 1998 fall semester was also approved, bringing the rates to \$750 for men and \$850 for women in MCC's Brooks Hall. The women's area of Brook's had undergone remodeling which was the reason for the difference in room rates. The meal plan was increased to \$900 per semester, an increase from \$650 the previous semester.

1998 Resignations The Board voted to accept resignations from Dr. Jo Keeler, long-time MCC administrator and Stan Garretson, long-time MCC math instructor and Lady Indians volleyball coach.

1998 Special Board Meeting At a special meeting, the Board of Governors voted to decrease the number of available tuition waivers from 121 to 61 because many of the available waivers were not being used.

1998 Regular March Board Meeting At their March meeting the Board acted on several important items: 1) The Board approved a bid of \$85,288 from League Design Builders of McCook to remodel the men's bathrooms in the dorm on the MCC campus, 2) They approved advertising for bids to resurface portions of the parking areas at Voc-Tech, 3) They approved limiting student tuition waivers to 15 semester credit hours and elimination of the "free zone" which had previously allowed students to pay only up to 18 semester credit hours, and 4) They approved the letting of bids for three cars for MCC.

Also part of March meeting was an invitation to the three top candidates for MPCC President (formerly known as Chancellor). The three top candidates were Kenneth E. Snow, Frank Williams, and George Mihel.

1998 April Board of Governor's Meeting The Board approved the low bid of \$49,970 from Simon Contractors to resurface the parking lots and student housing parking at Voc-Tech. Also the Board accepted the low bid of \$55,100 from Quality Construction to repave the Voc-Tech Campus east parking lot.

1998 April Board Meeting The Board accepted the resignation of Denise Barnes Tridle, chemistry instructor, at McDonald-Belton. The Board also offered a teaching contract to Steve Lunt for an economics teaching position at MCC.

1998 Vehicle Purchase The Board accepted the low bid of \$45,265 from Howard Kool Motors for the purchase of three vehicles for MCC.

1998 Tuition Waivers The Board approved 61 Board of Governors student waivers.

1998 Board Negotiator The Board voted to accept Shari Miller of Conflict Management Services as the Board's chief negotiator.

1998 New MPCCA President The Board of Governors were informed that George Mihel accepted the Board's offer to become the President of the Area. Dr. Mihel began his duties on July 1, 1998.

1998 Phone System The First National Bank of North Platte donated a surplus phone system to McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech. The bank had installed a new system, and fortunately MPCC was in the process of seeking to replace the system in use on campus and thus had an immediate use and need for it.

1998 Resignations The Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Darrel Hildebrand, Dean of Students, at McDonald-Belton campus. Other resignations that the Board accepted in the spring of 1998 were Patricia Valicky, math and science instructor; Patty Birch, library specialist; Lowell Fenster, auto mechanics instructor; Emanuel Templien, welding and machine shop instructor; and Frank Freeman, computer information specialist.

1998 Chemistry Instructor The Board approved the hiring of Deming Pan as chemistry instructor for the McDonald-Belton campus.

Fall 1998 Resignation Jan Schulte, MLT Instructor, submitted a letter of resignation to the Board which the Board accepted.

1998 MCC Library Hire The Board voted to hire Pat Bonge as acting library director at MCC.

1998 NPPD Donation The Board accepted a donation of \$8,500 from Nebraska Public Power District. The money was to be divided among the three campus locations.

Fall 1998 Nursing The Board passed a resolution authorizing the College to establish an off-campus nursing program in Valentine. There were still some hurdles to overcome, but the Board wanted to begin pursuing the goal.

December 1998 Board Meeting At their last Board meeting for the 1998 year, the Board 1) said goodbye to two retiring Board members—Jim Doyle and George Huebner; 2) approved providing two international students with scholarships through the MCC Foundation, 3) accepted the resignation of Dr. Glen Haney and authorized a search for his replacement, and 4) authorized the search for an administrative librarian at MCC.

January 1999 Board Activity 1) The Board hired Sherry Miller to negotiate with union bargaining agents, 2) increased dormitory rates for males at MCC to equalize the rates per gender, 3) granted a one-year sabbatical for Mark Bland, biology instructor at McDonald-Belton, 4) hired Judy Austin as accounting director.

1999 February Board Meeting The Board approved an emergency request for repairs to the roof of the MPCC Area office building. In other action the Board approved 1) the purchase of a 1999 Ford 20 passenger bus, 2) the purchase of motor control mock-up electrical equipment for the Voc-Tech Campus, 3) the hiring of a computer technician for MCC, 4) hiring a full-time electronics instructor for the Voc-Tech Campus due to the resignation of Richard Stephans, and 6) accepted the recommendation to acknowledge the MPCCA Classified Staff Association as the official bargaining unit for 1999-2000.

1999-2000 New Sport at MCC Women's softball was approved by the Area Board of Governors at their March meeting. Scott Wacker was named coach for the Women's softball team.

1999-2000 Physical Plant Improvements At the April Board meeting, the Brooks Hall project was approved, and \$70,000 of Walsh-Brady funds would be used for the renovation. A total of \$380,000 was designated for the Brook's Hall, Wigwam, and Barnett Hall improvements. The

McCook College Foundation pledged \$12,000 for the improvements to the Wigwam.

1999 May Board Meeting The Board discussed and then voted to hire a new dean to oversee the operations at the North Platte campus locations. The purpose of the hire was to free the current deans from the responsibilities beyond their individual campuses and thus have more time to devote to their individual campuses. The Board also approved 1) the continuation of a search for a management information system coordinator, 2) the hiring of Carl Ellis as Dean of Community Services, 3) the search for social sciences and heating and air conditioning instructors, 4) the purchase of an ETV link for MCC and 5) the acceptance of the 1999 Strategic Plan, 5) program reviews of academic transfer, electrical, and building construction/architectural drafting, 6) refinishing the gym floor at MCC and replacement of the boiler in Brooks Hall dormitory, and 7) the purchase of an interactive television classroom for the Voc-Tech Campus.

1999-2000 No Smoking The Area Board passed a no-smoking policy at the July 27 Board meeting to include all buildings of the Mid-Plains Community College Area, including Brooks Hall. Dr. George Mihel stated that if students or faculty members are caught smoking on campus they may be subject to being expelled or terminated.

1999 Board Action on New Hires At the September meeting, the Board took action to 1) hire Carl Ellis as vice-president for MCC (Carl had been serving as community services dean), and 2) hire Margaret Hoyle as career assessment counselor. In other action, the Board accepted the resignation of Cindy Lupomech in the career assessment center, changed Paul Foster's title from Dean of Administrative Services to Vice-President of Administrative Services, and approved the construction of a gazebo at MCC in memory of Dr. Jo Keeler, former Dean of Student Services.

1999 September—Special Board Meeting The Board, in a special meeting, approved the hiring of Dr. Steve Hoyle as Vice President of the North Platte campus locations.

1999 October Board Meeting The Board rejected a bid of \$80,000 made by Steve Mallory for the downtown Area Office Building (the Old Post Office Building which was the original home of North Platte Junior College).

1999-2000 Remodeling of Brooks Hall The Board also approved beginning the bid process for remodeling the south end of Brooks Hall.

1999 December Board Meeting In the December meeting, the Board took action on these items: 1) approval of a different long-distance carrier from AT&T to Firstel; 2) approval of a bid on Gateway computers of \$136,587; 3) shifting a part-time Tech III position to a full-time position at MCC; and 4) approval of the Dana Cole Auditing firm to provide auditing services three times a year for \$11,700 plus expenses annually.

2000 January McCook Campus Vice-President Resigns The North Platte *Telegraph* covered the January MPCCA Board meeting when the Board accepted the resignation of Carl Ellis as the Vice-President of McCook Community College. The article continued with a brief history of the series of four people who had held the position, whatever the title of the position, during the preceding five years. The Board also voted to spend \$7,500 from Walsh-Brady funds to study the joint needs of Chadron State College, the University of Nebraska system, the McCook foundation, the McCook Economic Development Corp, and MPCC for the southern portion of the College's service area. In other action the Board 1) acknowledged the Mid-Plains Vocational Education and the Mid-Plains Education Association, 2) approved the purchase of three Sharp AR 501 copiers, one for each campus, and 3) approved the purchase of a liquid crystal display projector from CGES to be used by community services in North Platte.

2000 MPCCA Board Elects New Officers Alan Hirschfeld was elected the new President of the MPCCA Board of Governors. Betty Wadewitz was elected the vice-president.

2000 MPCCA's Student Persistence Rate Above National Average Ford Craig, Director of the MPCCA's Institutional Research Department, reviewed enrollment data from the 1997 and 1998 academic years involving students who successfully completed their first year and returned to the institution for a second year of study. The information used first-time, full-time degree-seeking students only.

Beginning in 1997, the study revealed that 59.1 percent of all MPCCA's 509 first-time, full-time students who enrolled for the Fall 1997 term returned to complete their second year. Based on national statistics MPCCA's persistence rate is 8.3 percent above the national average. (North Platte *Telegraph*, 28 1 2000 A3)

2000 Chadron State College To Serve McCook Area Chadron State College's service area has been expanded to include southwest Nebraska. The Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary

Education unanimously approved a request by George Mihel, Mid-Plains Community College President, that CSC expand its service area to include MCC which had been served by Kearney State College.

2000 Mid-Plains To Offer Degree In Information Technology The Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education approved an Associate of Applied Science degree in the Information Technology Program for the Mid-Plains Community College Area. The new program would have four emphasis areas: personal computer support, computer programming, network technology, and integrated application systems. In addition to the degree, the program also would offer diploma and certificate awards. Elizabeth Benjamin, computer services instructor, Julie Goans, North Platte Campus computer instructor, and Janis Ridenour, Area Dean of Academic Instruction, designed and prepared the proposal for the CCPSC.

2000 Mid-Plains Approves In-State Tuition Increase The Mid-Plains Community College Area Board of Governors raised tuition by \$2 per credit semester hour for in-state tuition and decreased out-of-state tuition by \$1.50 per semester credit hour. In other action items the Board 1) accepted a \$7,307 bid to print 6,000 catalogs, 2) approved the purchase of a Genie Personal Lift to be used at both McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech Campuses, and 3) approved the search for a full-time psychology instructor.

2000 February Board Activity-McCook Women's Softball At the February meeting, the Board discussed adding a women's softball team at McCook.

2000 March Board Activity At the March meeting, the Board approved creating a women's softball team at McCook. The Board also 1) approved a \$7,500 contract with the Bonnie Helm Grant Writing Service of Laramie, Wyoming, to complete a TRIO grant application, recognized for bargaining purposes classified staff members for the Area office, the McDonald-Belton Campus, the McCook Campus, and the Voc-Tech Campus, 2) continued the search for a registered nurse to serve as coordinator for the certified nursing assistant program, 3) affirmed an articulation agreement with the U. S. Navy that would allow MPCC to accept coursework done as a part of naval training toward an associate degree in electronics (Nebraska is the first state to make this available), 4) authorized the purchase of four Serofuge Centrifuge units from Care Express Products Inc. of Gary, Indiana, (the purchase would upgrade the blood-banking equipment for the medical lab technician program on

the McDonald-Belton Campus), 5) accepted the 61 high school students on the 2000 MPCCA Board of Governors waivers list (the waivers are approved for one year and could be renewed for a second year), and 6) opened the bid process for the renovation of the south end of Brooks Hall at McCook.

2000 MPCCA April Board Meeting The Board discussed a new early retirement policy that the college would provide health and life insurance coverage not to exceed \$3,000 annually for no more than five years following retirement or until the employee reached age 65. To be eligible for early retirement, an employee needed to be at least 60 years of age and have completed at least 10 years of full-time, continuous service with the college.

The Board also accepted resignations from Pauline Shahan, nursing instructor at Mid-Plains; Ray Ortiz, music instructor at Mid-Plains; Jim Steward, English, journalism and philosophy instructor at McCook. The Board recommended a replacement be sought for Steward. The Board also recommended an administrative assistant III at Mid-Plains with the search to begin immediately. The Board approved 1) Terry Waite as bargaining unit negotiator at \$105 per hour; the remodeling of classroom 128 on the McDonald-Belton Campus; 2) a \$73,000 remodeling of a classroom at McDonald-Belton to renovate it for use as a distance-learning facility connecting the College with Chadron State College. It would be equipped to connect with other colleges as well. A \$30,000 remodeling of electronics and information technology classrooms and labs was approved; 3) using Project 99 grant funds to purchase a robotic arm for the Voc-Tech Campus from Midwest Tech in Madrid, Iowa, for \$14,994; 4) using Project 99 funds for the purchase of a level/flow and temperature process control trainer for the Voc-Tech Campus for a delivered price of \$28,566; 5) using Project 99 funds for the purchase of educational training software for the Voc-Tech Campus for \$5,570; 6) replacing of flat-top roof sections on the student union at the McCook Campus; 7) a \$172,200 bid from McCook Contracting for the renovation of the south wing of Brooks Hall on the McCook Campus; a \$36,000 bid from Nebraska Fire Sprinkler; 8) and the formation of The High Plains Zoological Society, a new club of the McCook Campus.

2000 May Board Meeting The Board approved 1) the hiring of Leona Drullinger as the Certified Nursing Instructor for the McCook Campus; 2) the redefinition of the housing director's position; and 3) a \$28,199 bid from AJ Heating, Air Conditioning and Sheet Metal for an upgrade to the heating and air conditioning system at Barrett Hall at MCC.

2000 June Administrative Building Sells The old U.S. post office at 5th and Jeffers which served as the first home of North Platte Junior College and later as MPCCA Administrative Offices was sold to Al Erickson by action of the Board of Governors for \$127,000. At the time of the sale, Mr. Erickson was not certain about how he would use the building.

2000 June Board Activity At their regular June meeting, the Board accepted the resignation of director of planning and recruitment, Angie Pacheco; and Elaine Kockrow, nursing faculty, who was retiring after 29 years. Trace Bevell, MCC's physical education instructor and men's basketball coach had also submitted his resignation for Board action.

MCCOOK COMMUNITY COLLEGE: 1994-2000

Administration and Faculty

1994-1995 Faculty Changes Peter Sontani was hired as a lab sciences instructor, and Suzanne Curl moved to full-time as a developmental math instructor and acting director of the Individualized Learning Center. Mike Walinder was the new computer technician. Jerry Boyer, criminal justice instructor, resigned to take a position at Redlands Community College. Linda Dixon became the volleyball coach. Michael Hendricks, criminal justice instructor, and Xiwu Feng, developmental reading instructor, began second semester.

1995-1996 Faculty Changes Catherine Berg resigned as English instructor. Chet DeVaughn was the new history instructor and women's basketball coach, and Matthew Wiemers was hired as full-time recruiter. Peter Sontani, lab science instructor, resigned in September. Stan Garretson who started the volleyball program at McCook College was named the coach for the next year. Elizabeth Larson resigned at the end of the school year, and her position was eliminated, as was the position of Child Development Center Director which was combined with a teaching position. Dr. John Rucker, Dean of Instruction, resigned at the end of the school year. Dr. Glenn Haney was named Dean of Institutional Enhancement.

1996-1997 Faculty and Administrative Changes Dr. Glenn Haney became the Dean of Community Services. Computer Science instructor, Chattamvelli Rahan resigned at the December Board of Governor's meeting. Tom Meyers, Economics Instructor, resigned at the end of the year and Siwu Feng, developmental reading teacher and director of the Individualized Learning Center, resigned.

1996-1997 More Changes New Dean. Dr. Paul Dauphinais became the Dean of McCook Community College on July 1 following two search processes throughout the year. Dr. Janis Peterson was hired as an economics teacher for a one-year non-tenure appointment to replace Thomas Meyer.

1997-1998 Faculty Changes Ken Shobe began teaching computer science. Loretta Hauxwell was hired at mid year as the new Family/Consumer Science and Bright Beginnings instructor. Stan Garretson, math instructor announced his retirement to occur at the end of the school year after 31 years at the college. He held positions of Dean of Men, Director of Admissions and Registrar, Division Chair, and volleyball coach at various times during his service. He was honored as Phi Theta Kappa's Outstanding Educator of the Year in 1978 and 1990 and NCCAC Coach of the Year in 1977 and 1980. Dr. Dona L. Henderson was selected as the math instructor to replace Mr. Garretson. Kent Been resigned as agriculture instructor. Dr. Stanislav Bohadlo, a Fulbright Visiting Scholar, was to teach two classes at McCook in the fall of 1998.

1998-1999 Faculty and Administrative Changes Irple Ruby, Library Director, who passed away on October 15, was honored by the Area Board of Governors. A memorial plaque was placed near the college's on-line resources center. At the October 28, 1998, Board Meeting Pat Bonge was hired as the acting Library Director. During the meeting, the Board also named the lower level of the Von Reisen Library the "Irple Ruby Memorial Multi-Media Technology Center" and directed the administration to place a suitable memorial on site.

Dr. Glenn Haney, Dean of Community Service, presented his notice to retire at the end of the year. During his 25 years of service, he taught psychology, was men's basketball coach, and served as Enrollment and Recruitment Director, Dean of Students, and Dean of Community Services. Carl Ellis was hired as the replacement for Dr. Haney.

Former Dean of Students and long time Phi Theta Kappa sponsor, Dr. Jo Keeler, passed away on March 4, 1999, a day after the 27th Inter-high day was held. Dr. Keeler had been instrumental in starting and promoting the Inter-high event.

Roger Wilson, long-time biology instructor who came to McCook in 1970, submitted his resignation. He also served as director of the Youth Conservation Corp from 1971 until 1980. Later, he organized the college canoe trip that was held each spring, and a second trip was often offered

in the summer. The largest class that participated in the canoe trip was 115. He was also honored as the Phi Theta Kappa Faculty Member of the Year.

Richard Driml, head of the college music department died June 3, 1999. He was hired to “make music” available for more students on campus, even if they were not music majors. His enthusiasm and interest in his community were assets in his success. He was involved with the spaghetti supper dinner shows, the annual Chili Cook off and organized student trips to England.

Dr. Paul Dauphinais resigned at the end of the year.

1999-2000 Faculty and Administrative Changes Sharing instructors became the solution for the vacancy created by Dick Driml’s death. Colleen Pinar was hired as the new music instructor, with the understanding that she would travel to North Platte to handle instrument duties; and Ray Ortiz, McDonald-Belton music instructor, was to travel to McCook to handle vocal music.

Robert Bear was hired to replace longtime biology instructor Roger Wilson.

Instructor Mike Hendricks produced a video “Til Death Do Us Part?” and is writing a column, “Mike at Night” for the McCook *Daily Gazette*.

Ted Fellers, Mid-Plains Community College Area Director of Financial Aid, was appointed to coordinate a field test for the 2000 National Post-Secondary Student Aid Study.

The fall semester began without a Campus Dean as Steven Kurtz declined to accept the position. On September 8, 1999, the Board hired Carl Ellis and changed the title to Vice-President of the McCook campus. He had been serving as the Dean of Community Services.

Judi Haney was named the new Dean of Community Services at the November Board meeting. The former distance learning coordinator, psychology instructor, and Phi Theta Kappa sponsor at the College filled the position that was vacated when Dr. Carl Ellis was moved to Vice President of the College.

Dr. Ellis announced his resignation at the January 26, 2000, Area Board of Governor’s Meeting. He was the fourth person to lead the campus after MCC President Bob Smallfoot resigned in 1996. Dr. Ellis said a needs assessment was the “last straw” in his decision to take a job at Peru State

College. He stated that he was disappointed that the needs assessment was drafted for four-year institutions. (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 2 2 2000 1). In his final interview prior to leaving his post, he stated, “The people in positions of authority were not paying attention; (reference to enrollment trends) it should not have happened. What I saw, very quickly was that McCook Community College was coming very close to being seriously cut back, if not closed ultimately.” McCook *Daily Gazette*, 1 3 2000 1).

The MCC Indians Booster Club held a fan appreciation night with free admission for the games with Southeast Community College at the end of January and planned a men’s basketball tournament for April.

Jim Steward announced his retirement from the position of English, journalism and philosophy instructor at the end of the 1999-2000 summer school classes. He had been at the college for 33 years and had served as Division Chair of the Humanities during his tenure. Jim had also been involved in early accreditation studies and had sponsored Student Senate. Ann Koester who had been involved in accreditation studies was named his replacement.

Leona Drullinger was hired to teach the Certified Nursing Assistant program.

Trace Bevell’s resignation as head basketball coach and instructor was accepted at the June 16 Board meeting. Within two weeks Lance Creech, former Hastings College assistant coach, was on the job recruiting as the new basketball coach.

Matt Weimers submitted his resignation as MCC recruiter and volleyball coach.

Candidate Charles Holt who had unofficially accepted an offer to become MCC’s top administrator withdrew his candidacy on May 17, 2000. MCC Student Services Dean Kirt Ruble continued as interim vice-president.

Dr. Richard Tubbs was approved as the new Vice-President in charge of MCC at the August 23, 2000, Board meeting. [**Editor’s Note:** Dr. Tubbs is still serving McCook Community College in 2011].

Faculty Recognition

1994-1995 BEST Award *Janet Weber was again named the “BEST” award for outstanding Business instructor.*

1994-1995 Lion’s Club *Dick Driml was named District Governor of the Lions Club.*

1994-1995 Theater Honors *Sue Watts was selected to be a play respondent for the seven-state Region V of the Kennedy Center/ American College Theater Festival for 1995.*

1994-1995 Watercolor *Don Dernovich’s watercolor was accepted into the 128th American Watercolor Society International Art Exhibition at the Salmagundi Club in New York City.*

1994-1995 Home Economics Award *Liz Larson was named president of the Nebraska Home Economics Association.*

1994-1995 PTK Award *Roger Wilson was named the Phi Theta Kappa “Outstanding Educator.”*

1995-1996 Art Honors *Don Dernovich’s painting “Winter Light” was featured in the February 1996 issue of In Watercolor Places and another painting, “Frenchman Glow” was featured in Splash Four, a book on the watercolor medium.*

1995-1996 Foundation Honors *The MCC Foundation honored the faculty at a luncheon in May 1996. The Foundation also announced that they are supporting a fine arts building project.*

1996-1997 Faculty Honors *Mike Hendricks was named an editorial advisory board member for a sociology textbook, The Sociological Outlook and was named as a contributor in its fifth edition.*

1996-1997 S’Miler Award *Mike Hartwell, MCC custodian, was given the S’Miler Award by the McCook Chamber of Commerce for his smiling attitude and willingness to “go the extra mile” to make living and shopping in McCook a pleasant experience.*

1997-1998 Faculty Honors *Janet Weber, business education instruction, was recognized as one of 38 Business Education’s “BEST in Nebraska” at the Nebraska Department of Education’s Vocational Conference in 1997 and was named the “Outstanding Vocational*

*Teacher of the Year” at the June 1998 conference. Dick Driml was honored for 35 years of service to music education by the Nebraska Music Educators Association. Art instructor Don Dernovich had a painting featured in a book, *Splash 5: Best of Watercolor, The Glory of Color*, and a painting “At The Edge of the Brim” was selected as one of the Top 100 Arts for the Parks paintings. He was also selected for inclusion in the fifth edition of *Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers*, 1998.*

1998 BPW *Tyler Esch was named McCook Business and Professional Woman of the year.*

1998 Fulbright Scholar *Dr. Paul Dauphinais, acting President of MCC, announced that a Fulbright Visiting Scholar was coming to the College for the 1998-99 academic year. Dr. Stanislav Bohadlo from the Czech Republic was a musician and classical guitarist.*

2000 MCC Business Faculty Honored Donna Harr and Janet Weber from the MCC business department were recognized as being Business Education’s BEST in Nebraska at the Nebraska Department of Education’s INVEST Conference in June of 2000.

Student Affairs and Activities

1994-1995 PTK Travel Phi Theta Kappa sponsor Judi Haney and student member Tonya Rae Liston attended the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Institute in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

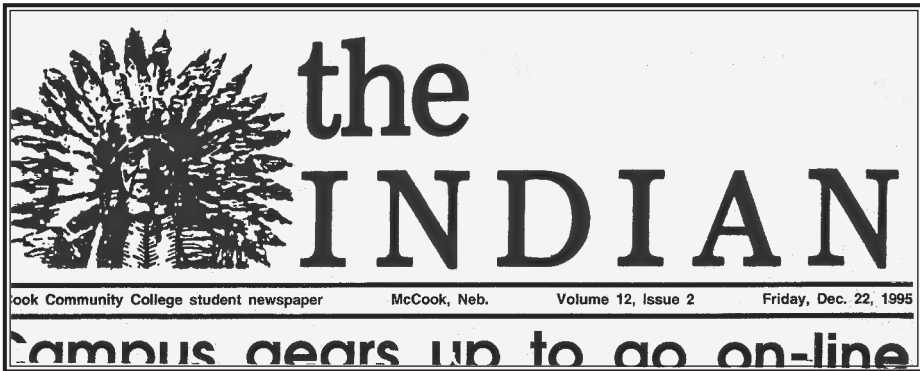
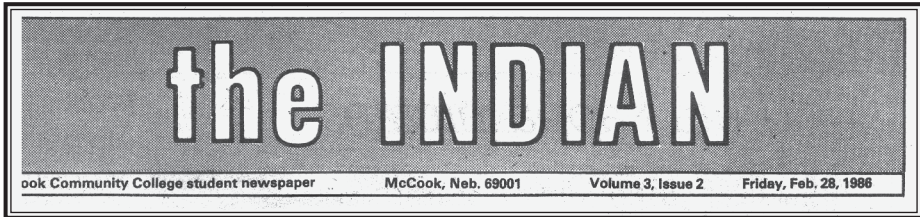
1994-1995 Choir Event The MCC choir sang the national anthem prior to the Denver Grizzlies hockey game against Indianapolis Ice in December in Denver. They were selected through an audition tape. The group also saw the *Phantom of the Opera* while in Denver.

1994-1995 Greater Tuna The Southwest Nebraska Community Theater Association, in cooperation with McCook Senior High and McCook Community College presented the play, *Greater Tuna* at the Chief Poolside and the MHS auditorium. MCC drama students also participated in the one-act play, *Fabulous Fable Factory*.

1994-1995 England Trip for Band Band instructor Dick Driml worked with a fellow Lions Club member in England who scheduled a jazz band

tour for the MCC band members for a different area of England since the band had toured the same area on three previous trips.

1995-96 Student Newspaper The MCC newspaper was a strong voice for campus affairs.



1995-1996 Performances Scheduled *A Christmas Carol* production was performed by students of MCC and the Southwest Nebraska Theater Association. The spring production was *Lost in Yonkers*.

1995-1996 Choir Recognition Sixteen members of the choir were selected to sing with a regional community college honor choir during the American Choral Director Association Conference in Lincoln.

1996-1997 Student Senate Student Senate members for 1996-1997 were Brooke Thomas, Erin O'Brien, Sara Garniss, Heather Hamilton, Jamie Alberts, Jody Estraich, Terri Gray, Bambi Morehead, Wendy Beck, Kristie Johnson, Jenny Messerer, Jennifer Sorensen, Mickare Hendricks, Andrew Martin, Jay Martin, Ryan Stanton, Seamus Kelly, Angela Carman, and Anne Sayer. Heather Hank served as president and Kent Been was sponsor.

1996-1997 Phi Theta Kappa New Phi Theta Kappa members were Cheryl Yoder, Helen Lutz, Danelle Boatman, Erin O'Brien, Lori Hilker, Dorothy Stevens, Diona Patterson, Crystal Farr, Amy Walz, Jessica Zimmerman, Wendy Beck, Desiree Wells, Jamie Alberts, Kris Mues, Jessica Bland, Mandy Leitner, Amy Haag, Stephanie Blake, Jackie Mullanix, Kristie Johnson, Piper Burke, Becky Hanes, Jennifer Stiner, Sharla Trosper, Jenni McConville, Sheri Beach, Kimberly McKinney, Julie Sayer, Amy Zwegardt, Emily Bach, Bradley Hubl, T.J. Wiemers, Ryan Stanton, Robert Yost, Derek Andrews, Kristin Casper, Kimbery Malleck, and Jamie Connell. They were sponsored by Jo Keeler, Judi Haney, and Susie Townsley.

1996-1997 Criminal Justice Club Club members Todd Gosch, Kyle Soucie, Cynthe Vogeler, Mike Mallery, Jennifer McNabb and sponsor Mike Henricks made a weekend trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to tour the Tulsa Police and Courts Complex and to participate in the ride-along program.

1996-1997 Joint Performance in Music The vocal music departments of McCook Community College and North Platte Community College held a joint performance on April 13 in True Hall.

1996-1997 Spring Theater Production *Airline Check-In*, directed by Jamie Connell, was one of the five one-act comedies produced in the spring. Performers were Jason Eagleton, Vickie Zulkoski, Trudy Messerli, Julie Sayer, Clay Beck, Chris Hoopes and Joni McQuiety.

1996-1997 England Tour It was the fifth tour to England for band director Richard Driml. Thirty-one members of the jazz ensemble and sponsors traveled to England for 14 days of sightseeing and concert performances, including playing four benefit concerts in Newquay, another for the Ashbourne Lion's Club and performed with the Jazz Vehicle, a group from the University. The band worked with numerous Lions Clubs throughout England to arrange housing and concert sites, staying with families of Lions Club members whenever possible.

1996-1997 Official School Song A song written in 1926 by Gladys Tipton and Eunice Hilton while they were instructors at McCook Junior College was designated as the official MCC School Song. The impetus for the song designation came from Wendell P. Cheney who was a member of the first class. Harold Larmon was the first to sing the song at the college when classes were taught in the old YMCA. For many years, the song concluded the performances by the college chorus when touring area schools. The song was lost when the tours ceased because of World War

II. It was found again in recent years, and Dr. John Batty presented it to the MPCC Board as an action item. Anne Sayer and Amy Haag performed the song before the Board of Governors at the July meeting prior to their vote to approve the song and recognize the song as the college's alma mater. The song was approved by a vote of 10-0. The song is now sung at MCC graduation ceremonies.

McCook Junior College Song

*There's where our hearts cling like ivy to her walls
 We never can forget those dear old friendship hallowed halls
 Gem of the prairie, pride of the West
 Boldly leading all the rest
 Old McCook, Dear Alma Mater
 For you we dare and do
 Loyal to the White and Blue,
 In our hearts they shrine we keep
 McCook forever and Aayyee.
 Gladys Tipton, Eunice Holton - 1926*

1997-1998 Fall Campus News New Student Senate sponsors were Mike Hendricks and Matt Wiemers. Jamie Alberts was editor of "Smoke Signals," the blue sheet filled with campus news and efforts were made to revive the Rowdy Rooters Club to spark student and community involvement. A new big-screen television, donated by the McCook College Foundation, was placed in the Wigwam Student Union.

1997-1998 Student Senate Officers were Wendy Beck, Heather Hamilton, and Korinne Riley. Other elected Senators were Lance Madron, Jamie Alberts, Brett Harsh, Korinne Riley, Marla Earley, Emily Bach, Wendy Beck, Heather Hamilton, Tomye Ridenour, Mike Masur, Brooke Thomas, Amber Pegg, Craig Coleman, Michael Hendricks, Julie Sayer, Jennifer Stiner, Jennifer Harkness, Crystal Farr, Erin O'Brien, and Jessica Olson.

The Student Senate received first place in the 1997 Christmas Light Parade, with an entry entitled, “An Old Fashioned Christmas.” (McCook *Daily Gazette* 8 12 1997 1).

1997-1998 McCook Ambassadors 1997-98 College Ambassadors were Sheri Beach, Laura Hardesty, Nanci Ruggles, Wendy Beck, Amber Pegg, Graig Skartvedt, Jesse Bolli, Molly McNulty, Julie Sayer, Emily Bach, and Jarvis Johnson. The Ambassadors were sophomores who were selected by the previous year’s Ambassadors. The sponsor was Rick Michaelson.

1997-1998 *A Christmas Carol* McCook Community College and the Southwest Nebraska Theatre Association presented *A Christmas Carol* at the Fox Theater. Sue Watts directed the cast of 32 children and adults.

1998-1999 Student Senate New officers were Jessica Olson, Marla Earley and Dustin Dold. Members were Brett Harsh, Jennifer Harkness, Jody Jordan, Diana McCorkle, Cody Hendricks, Kristen O’Brien, Scott Ensor, Wade Park, Kim Loecker, and Crystal Neseth. Matt Weimers sponsored the group. The group sponsored a hypnotist, helped with blood drives, and sponsored dances and activities for the student body.

1998 PBL Dorothy Stevens, MCC student and member of Phi Beta Lambda, was elected to the Mountain and Plains Regional Vice-President of PBL. She participated at three conferences for the organization and also presided at the PBL National Fall Leadership Conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

1998-1999 Music Tour Fundraising activities included a chili cook-off, concert, garage sale, and spaghetti dinner in preparation for the biennial England tour which was scheduled for May. Due to the illness of Dick Driml and his not being able to attend, plans were changed, and Lori Hilker, former music student, was asked to take charge. The group of 33 left McCook May 14. She said the trip was quite “an adventure,” and there were thrills and challenges throughout the experience. “I wasn’t certain of the financial arrangements at times, but everything worked out, and it was an experience I’ll never forget.” (Interview with Lori Hilker, 18 10 2009) The group performed five concerts in Cornwall and dedicated each to Mr. Driml. Dick Driml passed away on June 3. [**Editor’s Note:** The chili cook-off was later named the “Dick Driml Chili Cook-off” and in the years since then, a competition is held each winter during a basketball weekend.]

1998-1999 Dorm Numbers Residence hall occupancy was up four percent from the previous years.

1998-1998 Music Event “Noon Tunes” were held in the Wigwam.

1998-1999 Phi Theta Kappa Jennifer Bruns and Cody Hendricks were named to the Nebraska Community College Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team.

1998-1999 Phi Beta Lambda Dorothy Stevens and Tasia Johson received individual awards at the Phi Beta Lambda State Convention. McCook businessman, Phil Harr, was named the “Business Person of the Year.”

1998-1999 Criminal Justice Club The Criminal Justice Club members took a field trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma.

1998-1999 McCook Ambassadors Ambassadors for the 1999 year were Scott Einson, Danielle Rush, Julie Bolli, Jodi Bunting, Melissa Miller, Kein Coenen, Heather Michaelsen, Jessica Olson, Jodi Trumble and Nick Mikoloyck. Sponsor was Rick Michaelsen.

Facilities

1999-2000 New Dish A new satellite dish was installed in October.

1999-2000 in Memory A gazebo on the MCC Campus financed with memorial money in honor of Dr. Jo Keeler was dedicated.

1999-2000 Chimes Ring Again Bells installed in 1939 rang again on Friday morning, May 5, 2000, while the MCC faculty and graduates were waiting to be escorted into True Hall for commencement. It was evident work still was needed on the chimes, and that would be a future project.

Instructional Affairs and Activities

1994-1995 Possible New Program The McCook Community College Foundation was asked to raise \$90,000 to start a physical therapy program. The program fund drive was later abandoned when it appeared that there would be no state supported funding for the program. The program would have cost \$914,965 during the first five years of operation.

1994-1995 Library Services Librarian Irple Ruby announced that library services now include on-line searches, CD-ROM programs and news banks, Nebraska-OnLine and McCook Net, the local bulletin board. In her September 17, 1994, news release she also reiterated that the library was open to all patrons of the area, not just students.

1994-1995 Internet Internet for MCC bids were approved at the January 25, 1995, Board meeting for hardware and software which would allow the MCC campus to plug into the internet. “Ultimately, it would be nice to have Internet available at every student and instructor’s desk”, said Dr. Robert Smallfoot. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 16 1 1995 1).

1995 Tuition Hike A two dollar tuition hike was approved as a method to generate matching funds for technology grants. MCC applied for a grant for a fiber-optic project for the Educational Service Unit and a grant to tie the campus locations together through computers into a central location in the Learning Center of the von Reisen Library. At the July meeting, the Area Board also approved \$7,500 for painting the old dorm on the MCC campus and \$20,000 for remodeling in the Child Development Center.

1995-1996 Enrollment Decline Addressed A decline of 57 full-time students in the fall was addressed at the College Area Board of Governors meeting. Dr. Smallfoot stated that there are fewer high school graduates in the Area, and three hundred new jobs were added in the Area. He also stated that the recruiter position was reduced from 12 to nine months, and the community services office had been vacant for over a year. Action plans and goals for increasing enrollment were developed by both community services and student services offices for the 1995-1996 year.

1995-1996 Distance Learning MCC began its first semester of credit courses offered through a distance learning service provided by Nebraska Educational Telecommunications.

1995-1996 Budget Approved The MCC portion of the 1995-1996 budget was \$4,471,147. The general fund budget was \$24,838 less than last year. However, MCC underspent its general fund budget the previous year by \$235,000.

1996-1997 Community Services Enrollments The Community Services programs were very active throughout the decade of the 1990’s. The following table contains data for sample purposes regarding the 1996-1997 year in Community Services at MCC.

Community Services - Number of Classes, Enrollment and Contact Hours. 1996-1997 and Comparatives from Preceeding Years

| | Annual Enrollment | Number of Classes |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1996-1997 | 3,330 | 228 |
| 1995-1996 | 3,738 | 243 |
| 1994-1995 | 3,007 | 174 |
| 1993-1994 | 4,620 | 246 |
| 1992-1993 | 3,669 | 201 |
| 1991-1992 | 3,608 | 233 |
| 1990-1991 | 2,858 | 153 |
| 1989-1990 | 1,798 | 80 |

1996-1997 Fall Enrollment Dr. Jo Keeler, Dean of Students, reported that 403 full-time students were enrolled on August 27 compared to 368 in 1965.

1996-1997 Campus Updates New in 1996 was the addition of the Interactive Classroom on campus. It was developed for two-way interactive video which allowed the instructor to teach/broadcast from one classroom to remote locations which could be observed by the MCC instructor. It electronically connected the campuses at North Platte, Curtis, MCC, and 25 area high schools. The system could be utilized by community groups free of charge. The Driver’s Education classes, originally offered on a trial basis in 1996, were continued for 1997. A proposal was made to the board to study the possibility of using the FOX Theater for the performing arts department.

1997-1998 Student Numbers Fall enrollment was up from 403 to 407 students, according to Dean Dr. Paul Dauphinais.

1998-1999 Four-Year College Proposed (again) State Education officials received a proposal to make McCook Community College a part of the state college system by the McCook Economic Development Corporation according to a story in the McCook *Daily Gazette* 17 8 1998

2. The proposal was first reviewed in 1926 and has been explored several times during the history of McCook Community College.

1998-1999 Agriculture Program The Area Board of Governors stated that the number of agriculture students needed to increase and the Board reopened the search for an agriculture instructor. Concern was expressed that course enrollments needed to increase to make the program feasible. Area President George Mihel said that the college would like to have 12 students enrolled in each class, and three classes were offered first semester. Board member Alan Hirshfield stated, "This program should be a natural for this neck of the woods, but our past numbers are showing that it's not a natural." (McCook *Daily Gazette* 17 9 1998 2)

1998-1999 Enrollment Changes The College reported a 10.1 percent increase in part-time enrollment compared with the 1997 fall semester. The full-time enrollment decreased four percent or 16 students fewer than the previous year. It was speculated that the shift could be attributed to McCook's low unemployment rate and potential students joining the workforce.

1998-1999 Internet Classes Many faculty members were teaching courses over the internet and using web pages in their class curricula.

1998-1999 Distance Learning Classroom A grant to add a second room in which to base distance learning courses was approved.

1998-1999 Information Systems The college computer software and hardware was upgraded.

1998-1999 New Scholarships Beginning in 1999, the College was able to offer two \$1,000 scholarships for international students.

1998-1999 Applications Up Applications for enrollment were 50 percent higher than for the previous year.

1998-1999 Free Computer Classes Free computer classes were offered at the College through a grant from the Kellogg Foundation in cooperation with the Rural Center for Development.

1998-1999 Recognition The National Restaurant Association recognized the Family and Consumer Science Program and approved several of the College courses for its core program.

1998-1999 Fashion Show The annual College fashion show was titled "Fashionably Loud."

1998-1999 New Summer Schedule A four-day summer class schedule was adopted and then expanded to include academic night classes.

1998-1999 Shakespeare “Macbeth on the Green” was the spring show presented by the drama department.

1998-1999 Paint-In The annual “Paint-In” had artists from 20 schools doing murals on the theme of “Landscape.”

1998-1999 NCA Comprehensive Accreditation Seven members of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools were on campus May 3, 1999, to begin their accreditation review. Four strengths identified were the well-maintained and attractive facilities, dedicated employees, quality of the Career Assessment and Planning Center, and the expansion of distance learning.

A Focused Visit was planned for 2001-2002 to check progress on six challenges identified including finances, accounting, and organizational structure. Dr. Ford Craig was commended for his preparation of the study.

1999-2000 Watercolor Show The Art Department sponsored the American Watercolor Society’s 1999-2000 National Traveling exhibition. The College was the only Nebraska site selected to host the show.

1999-2000 Challenge In a follow-up *McCook Daily Gazette* 9 10 1999 2 editorial, a challenge was given to Dr. George Mihel to restore the Business Office at McCook Community College and that he should encourage McCook College staff members to speak at will about issues affecting the college.

1999-2000 Off-Campus Decline Discussed On October 14, a meeting was held by University of Nebraska regent Don Blank with McCook residents and University of Nebraska at Kearney officials to discuss the decline of off-campus offerings for McCook. A 92 percent decrease in credit hours earned in McCook from UNK classes since 1991-1992 spurred the discussion and support for a needs assessment.

1999-2000 New Directions for Distance Learning The College administration outlined a specific, action-oriented program to increase enrollment with a distance learning program to be offered at 31 sites throughout the Area. A new program, Computer Information Systems, was planned for MCC, and closer relationships would be developed with the University of Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture and Chadron

State College. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 14 10 1999 2) A new satellite dish was installed in October.

1999-2000 Changes Department Chairs were reduced in the Area from 62 to seven at the November 7, 1999, Area Board Meeting. The Chairs would be rotated every two years and would coordinate faculty input on budget, program and class scheduling and would take a major role in communication within the organization. They would no longer be required to do faculty supervision. Sue Watts and Mike Hendricks were selected for the McCook Community College. (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 8 11 1999 1)

1999-2000 Information Technology Program The Board approved the Information Technology Program which would replace the Computer Information Specialist program at the November 17, 1999, meeting. At the December 16 meeting, a full-time computer technician on-campus position was approved. Classes offerings with NACTA and MCC and UNL Extension were planned for a winter extra program.

2000 February Progress in Health Occupations In February, Dr. George Mihel announced that the Area's Health Occupations Division would begin teaching a complete Licensed Practical Nursing program in McCook to be delivered via satellite to the MCC campus.

1999-2000 Donation from YMCA The McCook Ed Thomas YMCA donated weight equipment to the college.

1999-2000 Action by Postsecondary Chadron State was allowed to expand services to southwest Nebraska following action by the Coordination Commission for Post Secondary Education.

1999 Fall Enrollments McCook Community College had a 5.2 percent increase in the number of students enrolled for the 2000 fall term. There were 49 more students taking classes than the previous year.

1999-2000 Nursing Program Expansion Expansion was made for the Nursing Assistant and Medication Aide programs and the Geriatric Aide Training program.

1999-2000 Training for Substitute Teachers The substitute teacher class training was enhanced.

1999-2000 Distance Learning in Southwest Nebraska Judi Haney announced that the distance education system was operating in 19 southwest Nebraska communities.

1999-2000 Softball Program An MCC softball program was proposed to the Board of Governors during their February meeting.

1999-2000 Out-of-State Tuition Out-of-state tuition rates were cut by \$1.50 a credit hour in an effort to attract students from northwest Kansas.

1999-2000 President's Design Area President George Mihel made the following statement at the October board meeting: "We will continue to focus on providing the educational and training needs of our 18-county service area in a variety of ways. For example, we plan to establish a number of tuition-waivers for part-time students, expand the variety of early morning, noon, evening, and weekend class offerings and provide degree completion programs for part-time students." (McCook *Daily Gazette* 12 10 2000 1)

Sports

1994 MCC Volleyball Returning sophomores were Karri Blagdon, Lisa Dolan, Sandi Greenland and Tausha Nelson. Freshmen players were Andrea Ambrose, Candice Bedonie, Shelly Cleveland, Becky Hein, Darla Johnsen, Dana Katen and Tina Patrick.

1994-1995 MCC Golfers Sophomore Brent Custer and freshmen Scott Bruha, Aaron Brown, Kyle Flammang, and Patrick Mudd golfed for coach Trace Bevell. Scott Bruha earned the opportunity to participate in the national tournament with an eighth place finish in regionals.

1994-1995 Men's Basketball Team members were Tramane Sipes, Keyon Reed, Mengasha Foote, Tracy Gross, Andrel Kirkwood, Eric Bopp, Chris Hastings, Randy Hoelscher, Chad McConnahan, Zoran Bursac, James Reese, Ibn Gardner, and Michael Thompson. They were coached by Trace Bevell and volunteer assistant, Barry Schaeffer.

1994-1995 Women's Basketball Players were sophomores Kristy Ring and Kelly Ward, and freshmen Diane Palu, Candice Bedonie, Angela Wickman, Willow Shirley, Dana Katen, Jennifer West, and Melissa Merrell. They were coached by Roger Shields until January when the program was suspended and Mr. Shields submitted his immediate resignation.

1995 MCC Volleyball Team members were sophomores Tina Patrick, Tracy Rowley, Andrea Ambrose and Dana Katen. Freshmen were Angie Dugan, Jocile Morris, Jennifer Sherman, Tanja Sherman, Stephanie Witte, and Wendy Wright. They were coached by Trace Bevell. Even though

they finished the season 0-21, Kana Katen earned All-NCCAC honors, and Tracy Rowley and Andrea Ambrose earned honorable mention.

1995-1996 MCC Golf Members of the golf team were Scott Bruha, Jason Taylor, Travis French, C.J. Farber, Jeremy Weber, Ryan Henderson and B.J. Flanagan. They were coached by Trace Bevell. Scott Bruha was named to the academic All-NCCAC golf team.

1995-1996 MCC Men's Basketball Sophomores playing were Mike Thompson, Keyon Reed, Wes Young, Kelvin Anderson, James Reese, and Ibn Gardner. Freshmen were Travis French, Kyle Miller, Brent Hazlitt, Chris Latham, Elton Jones, T.J. Weimers, Ronald Mackey and Ryan Lindner. Trace Bevell was the coach. Mike Thompson earned All-NCCAC first team honors in basketball and was also on the Academic All-NCCAC squad. James Reese was named All NCCAC Academic All-Region IX and honorable member All-NCCAC. Kelvin Anderson was an All-NCCAC choice.

1995-1996 Women's Basketball Sophomore members were Angela Wickman, Tina Patrick, Becky Lawson, and Dana Katen. Freshmen were Shannon Scott, Amber Kechter, Erin Bailey, Angie Cloyd, and Darci Ravenkamp. They were coached by Chet DeVaughn. Diana Katen and Becky Lawson received All-NCCAC basketball first team honors.

1996 Women's Volleyball Stan Garretson was again the coach for women's volleyball and started the season with 17 players. Players on the team were Keri Rasmussen, Nanci Ruggles, Jocile Morris, Angie Dugan, Stephanie Witte, Cori DeVaughn, RanDee Lemburg, Laura Hardesty, Misty Garretson, Heather Brown, Teri Hanson, Sarah Martz, Jenni McConville, Molly McNulty, and Annette Fredrick. Although the season did not have more games on the winning side, the team closed the regular season with big wins over Southeast Community College at Beatrice. Named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference team were Jenni McConville, Angie Dugan and Jocile Morris.

1996-1997 Men's Basketball Players on the team were Lawrence Charles, Javis Johnson, Travis French, Tyrone Ellis, Kevin Ross, Chris Latham, John Callaway, Kyle Miller, Chris McGill, Skouson Harker, Albert Richerson, Roland Hannah, Ryan Lindner, Maceo Wright, and T.J. Wiemers. They were coached by Trace Bevell and assistant Samba Johnson. The team set a school record for wins in a season, reaching 23 for the first time and played in the Region IX final game. They also wrapped up the NCCAC title and had a record of 26-8. Several players earned

postseason honors. Roland Hannah and Albert Richardson earned All-Region IX first-team status. Hannah, Richardson and Tyrone Ellis were also named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference first team, while Javis Johnson and John Callaway earned honorable mention All-Conference. Travis French was named an Academic All-American. French, Ryan Lindner and Kyle Miller were named to both the Academic All-Region IX and Academic All-NCCAC teams.

1996-1997 Women's Basketball Women's basketball team members were Misty Garretson, Shannon Scott, Erin Bailey, Sharon Beach, Kim Malleck, Dawn Anderson, Bambi Morehead, Angie Cloyd, Brenda Henrickson, Sonya Deinert, Lynnette Phillips, Erica Morton, and Becky Lawson. Student managers were Aaron Briggs and Edie Hoyt. They were coached by Chet DeVaughn and assisted by Matt Weimers.

1996-1997 MCC Cheerleaders Cheerleaders for the year were Jennifer Pesek, Brooke Thomas, Dawna Arensdorf, and Vickie Zulkoski.

1996-1997 Booster Club Officers New officers were Kelvin Miller, Bob Elder, Peggy Been and Mark Graff. Other Booster Club members were Gary Wiemers, Chet DeVaughn, and Trace Bevell. The Boosters voted to buy warm-ups for the men's basketball team and to support the cheerleaders fund raiser for new uniforms.

1996-1997 Men's Golf Graig Skartvedt, Travis French, Todd Shield, Joe Seykora, T. J. Weimers, Blake Burleson and Greg Steffers were team members for coach Trace Bevell during the fall and spring seasons.

1997 Women's Volleyball The team was coached by Stan Garretson. Players were Cori DeVaughn, Danielle Rush, RanDee Lemburg, Tara Hiner, Heidi Halley, Teri Hanson, Melissa Miller, Monica Burr, Nanci Ruggles, Laura Hardesty, Elizabeth Beach, and Robin Beach. Nanci Ruggles and Heidi Halley earned all-NCCAC honors

1997-1998 Golf Team Craig Skartvedt, Todd Shield, and Blake Burleson were returning sophomores. Freshmen players were Kevin Michaelis, Shane Berry, Sean Samuelson, and Ryan Butler. Five fall meets were scheduled and MCC golfers won their own invitational and several other meets. Trace Bevell was the coach.

1997-1998 Women's Basketball Chet DeVaughn coached the 1997-1998 women's team. Players were Marlena Hayward, Monica Gillen, Dawn Anderson, Jodi Bunting, Angie Morthole, Lynnette Phillips, Brenda Henrickson, Sheri Beach, Tamyé Ridenour, Megan Buffington, Leigh

Majors, Sonya Deinert, and Cori DeVaughn. Marlena Hayward was named to the first team for the Nebraska Junior College women's first team. Angie Morthole and Dawn Anderson earned honorable mention.

1997-1998 Men's Basketball Players were Shawn Smith, Kerry Murray, Javis Johnson, Skouson Harker, Albert Richardson, Gerald Walker, Jason Brown, Michael Johnson, Richard Stirgus, Kevin Ross, Jeremy Carlson, Kerry Murray, Gershon Petteway, and Kenny Trader. They were coached by Trace Bevell. After reaching a 10-0 record in December, the team was noted as one of 15 teams who received consideration for the national Junior College Athletic Association Top 20. "With national recognition comes more responsibility," stated Coach Bevell. (*McCook Daily Gazette* 3 12 1997 5) By December 10 the team had a twelfth-place ranking.

On December 10, the team improved to 12-0 with a win over Colby Community College and broke the school record of 11 straight wins, set by the 1954-1955 MCC squad. By January 14, the team moved to the Number 7 spot after their 15th win. On February 14, 1998, the team tied the school record for most wins, after setting that record in 1997. After maintaining a number 10 ranking for the remainder of the season, the team was defeated by Western Nebraska Community College in the quarterfinals of the Regional IX tournament, ending their season with a record of 29-3.

Coach Bevell was named the Nebraska Junior College Coach of the Year, and Albert Richardson was named Nebraska Junior College Player of the Year. Skouson Harker earned second team honors while Kerry Murray and Javis Johnson earned honorable mention.

1998 Volleyball Matt Weimers became the new coach of the volleyball team following the retirement of Stan Garretson. Team members were Monica Burr, Melissa Miller, Julie Bolli, Diana McCorkle, Jamie Armbruster, Crystal Neseth, Alicia Armagost, Denielle Rush, Robin Kramer, Crystal Lee, Terri Smallberger, Toni Kemp, Karleen Sundermeier, Suzanne Stanton, and Lindsey Brown. Assistant coach was Jenni McConville and student managers were Heidi Van Vleet and Shawna Vrbas. Danielle Rush and Karlene Sundemeier were named to the All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference volleyball team.

1998-1999 Golf Trace Bevell again coached the golf team. Tournament players were Kevin Michaelis, Kemp Anderson, Shane Berry, Nick Kroll and Marty Seward.

1998-1999 Men's Basketball Sophomore players were Larry Gilbert, Eric Brunz, Mike Johnson, Jakub Skjala, Jeremy Carlson, Bobby Brand, Richard Stirgus, Reggie Young, and Jason Brown. Freshmen were Antoine Harris, Gennaro Busterna, Jason O'Connor, Cornealius Roundtree, and Lewis Fox. Players were from Massachusetts, Nebraska, Louisiana, Michigan, Connecticut, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and the Czech Republic. Trace Bevell coached the team.

1998-1999 Lady Indians Basketball Chet DeVaughn coached the team. Sophomores were Angie Hampton, Angie Morthole, Jodi Buntin, and Marlena Holloway. Freshman team players were Tricia Janda, Pat Marshall, Malinda Robbins, Lindsey Broz, Lindsey Brown, Crystal Lee, Jessica Kathman and Reve Quinn.

1998-1999 Athletic Success Basketball coach Trace Bevell reported that during his tenure, 31 basketball players have had or were now on basketball scholarships at four-year colleges.

1999 Volleyball Matt Weimers was the coach. Players identified in game reports were Lindsey Brown, Suzanne Stanton, Cari Mashek, Trinette Phillips, Megan McKinney, Shannon Treick, and Crystal Hein. Coach Matt Weimers organized a volleyball clinic sponsored by the Indian Booster Club for fifth through seventh grade students.

1999-2000 New Softball Team The first MCC softball team coached by Scott Wacker had members Jennifer Cole, Melinda Miller, Sara Cappel, Amanda Haag, Lacey Kathman, Jen Arterburn, Monica Gillen, Kelsey Sellers, Triston Chisolm, Denise Boyda, Nicole Graeb, Jessica Ratcliffe, and Teresa Donze.

1999-200 Men's Golf The men's golf team members were Toby Arnold, Tim Brunner, Clint Coleman, Trenton Davis, Dan Kaminski, Justin McDonald, and Bret Wagner. Lee Maiden, Golf Pro at Heritage Hills, accepted the golf coach position.

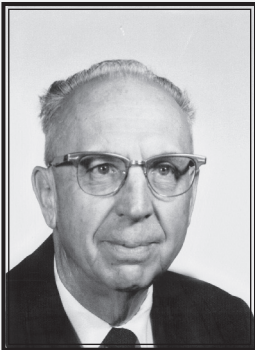
1999-2000 Volleyball Coach Changes Although Stan Garretson had resigned as volleyball coach in years gone by, he was again convinced to coach the 2000 team with the last minute resignation of Matt Weimers. Stan's wife, Ellen, was his assistant. Members of that team were Mandi Bymer, Megan McKinney, Jennifer Cole, Traci Bolin, Amber Covey, Holly Bonner, Kristin Onken, Crystal Hein, Lysondra Vaughn, Cari Mashek, Michelle Hodges, Jennifer Kelly and student manager Hillary French.

1999-2000 Lady Indians Basketball The roster listed Jessica Burns, Stephanie Coleman, Amber Lemke, Bobbi Andres, Jessica Kathman, Pat Marshall, Lindsey Brown, Malinda Robbins, Lindsey Broz, Cari Mashek, Trinete Phillips, and Reve' Quinn. Retired biology instructor Roger Wilson coached the team. After the first win against the Hastings JV, Coach Wilson allowed the team to call him "coach." "I told them all through practice that they weren't allowed to call me coach until we won a game. I guess I'll have to get used to it now." (*McCook Daily Gazette* 10 11 1999 5) Jessica Kathman was named to the second team of the *Omaha World-Herald's* all-state junior college women's basketball team.

1999-2000 MCC Men's Basketball Sophomores and transfers on the roster were Gennaro Busterna, Jason O'Connor, Javon Horn, Terrence Wilson, Marquis Holmes, Adam Kuehl, Kevin Swoffer, and John Rainbolt. Freshmen were Barry Lindsay, Chris Jenkins, Dustin Mitchell, Benny Glasper, and Brad Ferland. Trace Bevell coached the team. They earned the NCCAC title with a 76-72 win over Eastern Wyoming. MCC was upset in the opening game of regional play 81-66 by Dawson Community College to end their season. Gennaro Busterna was named as honorary captain on the *Omaha World-Herald's* All-State Junior College Basketball Team. Marquis Holmes was a second-team selection and Benny Glasper, Barry Lindsay and Kevin Swoffer were honorable mention selections.

E.P Baruth as a Major Influence in McCook College Sports

E.P. Baruth: The Man



E.P. Baruth was a significant figure at MCC from 1950-1972. His track teams won the Nebraska Junior College Championship 12 times and won four Empire Conference titles. His teams placed in the top ten nationally five times. E.P. was a motivator and a friend to all students, and he was known for handing out Tootsie Rolls when a student might need a boost or needed to be recognized for a special accomplishment. The E.P. Baruth scholarship recognizes outstanding student athletes who intend to pursue postsecondary studies after completing studies at MCC.

The following listing contains all E.P. Baruth information from 1974 through 2000.

Early 1980's E. P. Baruth Reunion *A reunion of former McCook track, field, and cross-country athletes was held June 19 to honor E. P. Baruth and to dedicate the YMCA track in his honor. Returning athletes were Jerry Nott, Paul Orvis, Ron Guthrie, Rex Moore, Byron Loescher, Allan Wengert, Neal Hauxwell, Jack Fanning, Bob Dreher, Norman Lewis, Larry Ommert, Bill Nott, Bill Madron, Dean Weskamp, Bob Sughroue, Gene Premer, Ken Foster, Bill Holliday, Dale Sides, Marv Briegel, Dave Debban, Al Somma, and Jim Steinke.*

E.P. Baruth Awards

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 1974-1975 | Dick Gosnell |
| 1975-1976 | Dave McNair Jr. |
| 1976-1977 | Dan Desmond |
| 1977-1978 | Stephen Wood |
| 1978-1979 | Karen Klooz |
| 1979-1980 | Not Available |
| 1980-1981 | James Drake |
| 1981-1982 | Susi Harms |
| 1982-1983 | Dan Woods |
| 1983-1984 | Julie Kasl |
| 1984-1985 | Larry Newcomb |
| 1985-1986 | Mitch Muma |
| 1986-1987 | Angie Rowland |
| 1987-1988 | Not Available |
| 1988-1989 | Jack Ryan |
| 1989-1990 | Not Available |
| 1990-1991 | Lance Creech |
| 1991-1992 | Darren Peterson |
| 1992-1993 | Lori Axtell |
| 1993-1994 | Amy Nielsen |
| 1994-1995 | Brent Custer |
| 1995-1996 | Dana M. Katen Scott A. Bruha |
| 1996-1997 | Angie Dugan Travis French |

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| 1997-1998 | Graig Skartvedt Dawn Anderson |
| 1998-1999 | Jason Brown Melissa Miller |
| 1999-2000 | Jason O'Conner |

Unusual / Notable

1995 Community Builders Program Honored The Community Builders program was selected as one of 20 semifinalists from the Midwest in the 1995 Council of State Governments Innovations Awards Program. The Nebraska program was introduced in southwest Nebraska in 1991, and McCook Community College played a major role in facilitating the program. The process incorporated vision building, community tours, presentations, small group activities and networking.

1995-1996 Foundation Efforts The McCook College Foundation approved spending \$770 to purchase an electric fryer and heat lamp for the Wigwam that would enhance the ability of the student union manager to serve a more varied menu. The Foundation also approved funding for an orientation breakfast where new students could meet with their advisors, faculty, and staff. The Foundation also approved \$500 for the annual Six-State Art Competition. Officers of the Foundation were Norma Stevens, President, J.T. Harris, Vice- President; Roland Anderjaska, Hayes Center, Secretary and North Knedlik, Treasurer. Other directors were Lloyd Benjamin, Dave Coolidge, Jack Clark, and Jack Rodgers.

1995-1996 in Preparation for Nebraska 2000 Panel Dr. Robert Smallfoot was appointed by Governor Ben Nelson to the Nebraska 2000 Panel which provided oversight on general educational goals and citizen consensus for content, skill, and application learner standards as a part of the Goals 2000 funding process.

1995-1996 Arboretum Planned for Campus Donations from the community assisted in a beautification plan to plant trees around the campus to create a positive “first impression,” according to committee member Dick Driml. (McCook *Daily Gazette* 24 1996 1) Other committee members were Lyle Moskal, Dave Coolidge, Michael Owens, and Mike Hartwell.

1996-1997 Anniversary Preparations for MCC's 70th Year Bricks inscribed with donors' names were offered for sale as part of the 70th anniversary celebration at McCook Community College. The bricks which cost \$25 each were sold and a memorial was developed on the northwest corner of the main campus. Over 250 were laid prior to the ceremony, and another 60 were purchased.

The cornerstone of the campus, a slab of granite weighing about six tons, arrived on September 5. The reddish pink rock was carved from a quarry in Big Sioux River Valley in South Dakota. The Burlington Northern and Santé Fe railroad hauled the rock to McCook at no charge. The McCook Fire Department washed the rock, and Hixson Construction Company's crane placed the stone on the northwest corner of campus for the dedication on September 21.

Also, a special commemorative pictorial postage cancellation to postmark postcards to celebrate the 70th anniversary was held on campus on September 21. Postcards with an aerial view of the college were made available.

The Era of Greg Fitch and MCC

1996-1997 Strong Community Support for MCC *In an editorial by Jack Rogers, McCook Daily Gazette 21 8 1996 2, Mr. Rogers stated, "Although the faculty and MCC have been out front working to increase enrollment, other groups have become more actively involved." He stated that a committee of McCook College Foundation members, college personnel and Industrial Development Corporation representatives had been visiting area schools, soliciting comments about the college to help expand on the good points and correct the weak ones. Another 70th Anniversary celebration committee had been working on ways to make the milestone memorable on September 21.*

Rogers went on to state: "What has caused all this interest in our college? We must give credit to Mid-Plains President Greg Fitch and his down-sizing plan and the majority of the Mid-Plains Board of Governors who misguidedly went along with it. This threat to MCC did more to unite and energize this community and other supporters of the college than anything in a long, long time. It's no wonder this support of MCC is the envy of officials at other colleges."

1996-1997 Aggravations for Chancellor Fitch *The McCook Daily Gazette* took an editorial position against the hiring of a public information director, stating that “it didn’t make much sense to hire a public information director when the offices of Presidents at the campuses were eliminated.” (*McCook Daily Gazette*, 9 10 1996 2) In another article on 14 10 2, City Editor Scott Hoffman asked Chancellor Fitch, “to get a handle on the problems at Brooks Hall before someone else gets hurt.” At the October 9, 1996, Board of Governors meeting, Chancellor Fitch stated that the chancellor’s title should be changed to President. On October 31, 1996, the process of hiring a new dean for McCook Community College took a step back when a Wisconsin woman decided not to take the position. Chancellor Fitch had termed the reorganization effort “Operation Starlight.” The Mid-Plains Area Education Association members passed, “by a super majority,” a vote of no confidence in Fitch’s ability to lead the Mid-Plains Area, according to Association President Judi Haney (*McCook Daily Gazette*, 20 12 1996 1). The Chancellor did get an extended contract by a vote of 6-5 at the December 18 Board of Governors meeting.

1997-1998 Administrative Changes Chancellor Greg Fitch gave his resignation at the November 26, 1997, Board meeting. The Board then voted to advertise for the position of “President of Mid-Plains Community College Area” (*McCook Daily Gazette* 3 12 1997 1). The Board appointed Dr. Paul Dauphinais as Acting President and named an administrative team that included Janis Ridnour, Ken Aten, Jill McFarland, Chuck Salestrom, and Dr. Ford Craig. Ted Fellers, McCook was the McCook campus representative selected to serve on the search committee. Dean of Student Services, Dr. Jo Keeler gave her resignation effective at the end of the year. She joined the faculty in 1971 and became Director of Community Services in 1987 and Dean of Students in 1989. Dr. George Mihel was named the Mid-Plains Community College Area President at the April Board meeting. Kirt Ruble was named the new Dean of Students. Ted Fellers was named the Area Interim Financial Aid Director.

1996-1997 Community Hospital Honored at Vocational Conference

Community Hospital was recognized at the annual Vocational Education Conference for its support of vocational education and cooperation with McCook Community College in its health occupations, home economics, and business education programs.

1996-1997 MCC Foundation Esther Trantow Dobbie, who attended McCook Junior College in 1928, left \$300,000 to the College Foundation with no restrictions or stipulations regarding how it should be spent. Foundation officers included Norma Stevens, President, J.T. Harris, Vice-president, Roland Anderjaska, Secretary and Norton Knedlik, Treasurer. Dr. Mike Owens was a Foundation Board member, and other Board members were Ben Hormel, Dr. Warren Jones, Walt Sehnert, and Dallas Watkins.

The Foundation provided a \$3,000 grant to help Absolute Brass'n Company of the MCC instrumental music department pay for motor coach rental while touring in England. It also helped underwrite a presentation of *Hansel and Gretel* to students in grades 3-6.

The Foundation voted to support Wigwam renovation during their May meeting and to donate \$200 per activity organized on campus for MCC students.

1996-1997 MCC Commencement Former MCC instructor Lyle Moskal delivered the commencement address and stressed the 70 years of greatness of MCC, along with the importance of "learning responsibility, caring and compassion." (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 16 5 1997 10)

1997-1998 Scholarship Requirement Changes The Mid-Plains Community College Area Governing Board approved a plan to recruit international scholars through the Fulbright Grant. Guidelines for the Walsh-Brady Scholarships were changed to allow students who maintained a 3.0 grade point average, but who were not in the top half of their graduating class to be eligible. Exceptions would also allow students who rank in the top 10 percent of their graduating class, but who score less than a 20 on the ACT to be eligible.

1997-1998 Red Brick Road Donations to the McCook Community College Foundation continued to enlarge the red brick sidewalk leading to the large rock memorial on the northwest edge of the main campus. Engraved bricks costing \$30 each were engraved to honor students, faculty, administrators, board members and friends of the college.

1997-1998 Coach Confer's Team A June reunion of the 1951 college football team, called a "huddle" which brought back memories of the team that won the 4-JC Conference. Jean Lindeman, Verlyn Saladen and Bob Colling were three members recognized on the All-American Football Squad. Coach Confer and assistant George Rainbolt were in attendance and shared memories of the experience with team members.

1998-1999 Norris Avenue Islands Student representatives from Phi Theta Kappa, Student Senate, and Campus Crusade decorated the islands on Norris Avenue with Christmas ornaments. This was reminiscent of the football years at the College when students would decorate the islands for homecoming. Other Christmas events in 1998 included the presentation by the College and the Southwest Nebraska Community Theater Association of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."

1998-1999 Nelson Institute With the assistance of former Governor Ben Nelson from McCook, the Nelson Institute maintained a presence on the MCC campus. Vicki Leibbrandt was the director of the Institute. A grant request was submitted to the Ameri-Corps to bring several volunteers to work in rural economic development in southwest Nebraska. The Institute also provided support for business development grants to assist existing businesses that wished to improve or expand operations. Ongoing support was also provided to the Community Builder's Program that was started in 1991 by the State of Nebraska, and the pilot project in the state was coordinated by the College Community Service's office.

1999-2000 Nelson Institute Former Nebraska Governor Ben Nelson announced the first class of Nelson Fellows. The new program provided employment opportunities for students in their junior year of college. The first class members were Lynne Wilson, Stephanie Blake, Craig Coleman, Stacey Jo Weaver, Marla Eariley, and Kimberly McKinney. During the year the fellows provided 1,800 hours of service for communities and organizations in Nebraska. Topics studied included water quality, school revitalization, expansion of alternative methods in agriculture, increased Internet availability, and incorporation of youth into communities.

1999-2000 Foundation Voices Concerns Members of the McCook Community College Foundation appealed to the Education Committee of the Nebraska Legislature on September 21 to open doors of opportunity to allow expansion of the MCC campus. The supporters asked for greater access to four-year classes and a free rein to develop and offer innovative programs. Dr. Mike Owens stated that "Operation Starlight", a program that eliminated the position of McCook College President; and the failure

to approve suggested programs, including physical therapy assistant and dental hygiene technician, was evidence of lack of support. He further stated that relations between North Platte and McCook are somewhat like “Cinderella and the wicked step-sisters.” (McCook *Daily Gazette* 21 9 1999 1)

1999-2000 Walsh Brady Concerns Create More Action Concerns that \$370,000 in Walsh Brady scholarship funds had not been utilized prompted editorial comment and citizen responses. A McCook *Daily Gazette* editorial (25 8 1999 2) stated, “Rather than taking advantage of college strength, McCook College has drifted because of the lack of strong leadership. The Mid-Plains Area College administration needs to work closely with the staff at McCook College and the McCook College Foundation to see that exciting new programs and enthusiastic recruiting efforts are developed.”

1999-2000 Needs Assessment Members of the College, McCook College Foundation and McCook Economic Development Corporation gave their blessing to a comprehensive “needs assessment” to determine the educational program priorities in Southwest Nebraska after a meeting October 7, 1999. The group met with Dr. Thomas Krepel, President of Chadron State College, and Dr. Carl Ellis, Vice-President of McCook Community College. Dennis Baach, Executive Director of the Nebraska Community College Association also gave his endorsement of the study after meeting with McCook area residents. (McCook *Daily Gazette*, 8 10 1999 2)

In March MPCCA President George Mihel announced plans to create a task force in cooperation with the Nelson Institute to address the issues surrounding McCook Community College. The goal of the task force is to develop a unified approach to the challenges facing the campus. Three meetings, facilitated by Omaha attorney John Miller, were by invitation only, and the press was not allowed.

The final task force meeting was held in April and was open to the media. The mediator was absent, and Dr. Mihel facilitated the meeting which focused on improving communication and procedural issues. A community advisory committee was suggested.

1999-2000 New Funds The Ben Hormel family announced plans to establish a foundation for a business and technology center at the college.

MID-PLAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE -
MCDONALD-BELTON CAMPUS: 1994-2000

(now referenced as the North Platte Community College South Campus)

Administration 1996-2000

| | |
|---|--|
| Dean of Academic Instruction | Janis Ridnour |
| Dean of Students | Darrel Hildebrand (replaced in 1998 by Greg Goode) |
| Dean of Community Services | Thomas J. Gorman |
| Director of Counseling | Karen Hibbard |
| Director of Adult Basic Education | Deanna Odean |
| Director of Library and Resource Center | Keith A. Saathoff |

Faculty 1996-2000

| | |
|------------------|---|
| English | Jerry Ulrich, Ruth (Wohler) McKay, Ivan Koch (retired 1996 replaced by Ron Block) |
| Speech and Drama | Nadyne Hengen and Colin Taylor |
| Art | Gil Rocha |
| Music | Myra Katherine Hale (replaced by Ray Ortiz 1996) |
| Mathematics | Virgil Nelson retired in 1996, (replaced by Roger Volentine), Carol Burns, replaced by Pat Velicky in 1996), in 1998 position discontinued |
| Math and Physics | Larry Smith |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Biological-Science | Mark Bland, James Carson, retired 1997, (replaced by George Spiegel) |
| Chemistry | Denise Barnes, (replaced in 1998 by Deming Pan) |
| Social Science | Roger Babcock, retired in 1996 (replaced by Steve Owen), Carl Mundis retired in 1998, (not replaced), James Nevitt |
| Criminal Justice | Allen Settles |
| Physical Education and Men's Coach | Kevin O'Connor |
| Physical Education and Women's Coach | Sally Thalken |
| Computer Science | Althea Stevens (replaced by Rod Kuchta) |
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Jan Schulte, retired in 1998, (not replaced); |
| Martin | Steinbeck |
| Business | Roy Deeds, Kent Weilage added in 1998 |
| Secretarial | Jean Condon, Marilyn McGahan, Eloise Schwab, retired in 1997, (replaced by Angie Chittick) |

Faculty Recognition

1994 Two Instructors Receive BEST Awards *On August 8, 1994, it was announced by the Business Education Department of the Nebraska Department of Education that two instructors at MPCC, Jean Condon and Marilyn McGahan, had received BEST awards for their outstanding achievements.*

1996 Gil Rocha Honored *Gil Rocha, art instructor, was asked to submit art work using colored pencils to be included in a book authorized by Verna Curnow, founder of the Colored Pencil Society of America. In addition, Curnow also included a drawing by Rocha titled "Rural Rt., North Platte."*

1996 Two MPCC Instructors Selected for NISOD Excellence Awards *Carol Burns was recognized for her contributions to the satellite distance learning program, and Roger Babcock was involved in the development of Writing Intensive classes for the McDonald-Belton Campus.*

1996 Educator of the Year Award *Marilyn McGahan was selected for the Educator of the Year Award by the North Platte Chamber of Commerce.*

1997 Ray Ortiz Honored *McDonald-Belton campus music faculty member Ray Ortiz won the title of "Best First Year Novice Director" at the International Women's Barbershop Regional Competition.*

1997 Patty Birch Receives NISOD Excellence Recognition *Patty Birch, Library Technician, was recognized for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award for leadership and teamwork.*

1997 Ruth (Wohler) McKay Receives NISOD Excellence Award *Ruth (Wohler) McKay was selected for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award for 1997.*

1997 NVA Award *On August 4, 1997, Marilyn McGahan received the Outstanding Vocational Business Teacher of the Year Award from the Nebraska Vocational Association. In addition, she was awarded*

the overall Vocational Business Teacher Award and was eligible to compete for the Regional Vocational Teacher of the Year award.

1997 BEST Award *Special recognition was bestowed upon Jean Condon and Marilyn McGahan by receiving the BEST Award at the Annual Nebraska Vocational Association Conference in Kearney, Nebraska, August 4, 1997.*

1998 Human Relations Class *Nadyne Hengen and her Human Relations class students were recognized by the MPCC Board for their community service activities.*

1998 Tom Gorman *Tom Gorman, Dean of Community Services, was recognized for serving on the State of Nebraska Human Resource Investment Council.*

1998 Marilyn McGahan *Ms. McGahan, long-time Mid-Plains Community College business instructor, was named the 1998 Vocational Teacher of the Year for Region V of the American Vocational Association.*

1998 Jean Condon *Jean Condon, a business instructor at Mid-Plains Community College – McDonald-Belton Campus, was named 1998 Outstanding Post-Secondary Business Teacher by the Nebraska State Business Education Association.*

1998 Ruth (Wohler) McKay *Ruth (Wohler) McKay, English and Education Instructor; presented “Developing a Math Study Skills Course” at the Nebraska/Kansas Reading Study Skills Association Conference in Junction City, Kansas.*

1998 Marilyn McGahan *Marilyn McGahan, business instructor for more than 25 years, was one of five instructors from across the nation competing for the title of Vocational Teacher of the Year.*

1999 Gil Rocha *Art instructor Gil Rocha had a color pencil drawing titled “Something Beautiful” selected for a national exhibit where it was awarded the Colored Pencil Society Memphis District #108 award.*

2000 February - Mid-Plains Faculty Member, Alumna Honored Marilyn McGahan, a long-time business instructor at Mid-Plains Community College, was named the Nebraska Community College Association Faculty Member of the Year. Also, Janice M. Mumm, a graduate of Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, was one of six persons honored as Nebraska Community Colleges Distinguished Alumni of the Year.

2000 McDonald-Belton Instructor Wins Arts Fellowship On May 25, Ron Block, English Instructor at McDonald-Belton Campus, was honored at the monthly Board meeting for receiving The Distinguished Achievement Award and a fellowship from the Nebraska Arts Council. Block's \$5,000 award was in the fiction category.

2000 McDonald Belton Business Faculty Honored Jean Condon and Marilyn McGahan from the McDonald-Belton business department were recognized as being Business Education's BEST in Nebraska at the Nebraska Department of Education's INVEST Conference in June of 2000.

Student Affairs and Activities

1994 to 2000 Business Student of the Month Selecting a Business Student of the Month was an on-going activity for the Business Division on the McDonald-Belton Campus. Each month the business faculty selected a Business Student of the Month based on academic achievement and student participation. Each student received a certificate and write up on their behalf was submitted to the North Platte *Telegraph* and/or their hometown newspaper.

Phi Beta Lambda Over the Years The Sigma Omega Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at North Platte Junior College (now North Platte Community College again) was organized in May of 1970 by Roy Deeds, accounting instructor. The organization remained active for two years until Roy Deeds took a leave of absence to complete work on his doctorate; the group then became inactive. Unfortunately, the group remained inactive until 1997 when Jean Condon and Kent Weilage were instrumental in getting the Sigma Omega Chapter reinstated during the 1996-1997 year.

An initiation ceremony on Sunday, February 9, 1997, at the McDonald Belton Campus was held to induct officers and install 20 members of Phi Beta Lambda. In 1998, the Sigma Omega Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at McDonald-Belton Campus attended the State Leadership Conference in Grand Island. Josh Catlett, Kylie DeVooged, Karen Hull, and Sharon Baker attended the event. Josh Catlett placed second in the Impromptu Speaking competition, and Sharon Baker placed fourth in the Computer Applications competition.

Phi Theta Kappa Student Presidents for McDonald-Belton

| Year | PTK President |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 1994-1995 | Laura Hewgley |
| 1995-1996 | Keesha Kalblinger |
| 1996-1997 | Chad Beckius |
| 1997-1998 | Tammy Morrow-Julesgard |
| 1998-1999 | Not Available |
| 1999-2000 | Pamela Baumgartner |

October 1996 New PTK Members at McDonald-Belton The Alpha Beta Theta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted new members Karla Cooley, Pamela Ellis-Smith, LaDonna Fetzer, Michelle Fiore, Andrea German, Karen Hull, Judith Lusk, Charles Goff, and Jose Martinez on October 20. Speakers for the ceremony were Dr. Gregory Fitch, Chancellor Mid-Plains Community College Area, and Janis Ridnour, Dean of Academic Instruction.

1996 Student Education Association of Nebraska Members Alice Murphy, Chad Beckius, Tricia Easterday, Jennifer Barnes and instructor Ruth Wohler from Mid-Plains Community College chapter of the Student Education Association of Nebraska attended the group's fall conference at Kearney.

1997 Inter-high Contest The 1997 Inter-High Day Contest was held in March of 1997 and 50 area schools participated at both McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech campus locations.

1997 PTK Inductees The Phi Theta Kappa fraternity of Alpha Beta Theta at McDonald-Belton campus inducted 13 new members in late September. Cal Robinson of Edward D. Jones was the guest speaker for the event. For the 1997 year, Tammy Morrow-Julesgard was president and Michelle Fiore was vice-president.

1998 College Day More than 50 high school seniors had a chance to experience college life as they participated in College Day at McDonald-Belton Campus. Students from North Platte Senior High, Saint Patrick High School, and high schools in Arnold, McPherson County, Stapleton, Sutherland, Wallace, and Medicine Valley participated in the experience.

1998 Business Student of the Month for October Karin Franklin Finley was chosen Business Student of the Month for October by the business department faculty at McDonald-Belton.

1999 February New Dean of Student Services Greg Goode was named new Dean of Student Services.

1999 February Changes Proposed by New Dean of Student Services

These proposed changes included 1) Relocating student services to the McDonald-Belton Campus. The offices of financial aid, business, admissions, and registrar will all be located on the campus, 2) Creating a learning lab, 3) Implementing an early warning intervention for students who are in danger of failing, 4) Improving Student Orientation Advisor System, 5) Creating an Admissions Office, and 6) Creating program advising sheets that clearly define which courses are needed for each degree.

1999 MPCC Children's Theater In March, The Court Jesters production of *I Didn't Know That*, a children's play directed by Colin Taylor, was performed at the Mid-Plains Community College theater and also at elementary schools in North Platte, in Ord, and in Dunning.

1999 Mid-Plains Community College To Get More Student Housing

Mid-Plains Community College has made arrangements to accommodate increased enrollment at both McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech Campuses. They reached an agreement with Stockman Inn on an arrangement to reserve 32 rooms on the north side of the facility. The rooms would be available the fall semester of 1999 and offer cable and telephones. There would be an exercise room and laundry facilities available as well as a 10% discount from the Stockman Inn restaurant. The cost of the housing would be \$900 per student per semester which was comparable to student housing at McCook Community College at \$850 per student per semester for dormitory housing.

1999 March Seventh Annual Regional Eighth Grade Health/Science Meet

The Seventh Annual Regional Health/Science Meet sponsored by UNMC and co-sponsored by area School-to-Work programs was held at McDonald-Belton Campus. In 1999 there would be six regional meets

throughout the state with between 500 and 600 students participating in the events.

1999 May Education Student of the Month Wade White was selected May Education Student of Month by the social science and education faculty of McDonald-Belton.

1999 McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech In October, both campus locations hosted an open house for area high school seniors. More than 50 high school seniors were provided with information that would help them make informed post-high school choices. Students from Sutherland, North Platte, Wallace, McPherson County, Stapleton, Arnold, and Culbertson were participants. The young people interested in academics could choose three classes to attend. If they were interested in vocational, they could choose two on the Voc-Tech campus.

1999 Court Jesters In November, the Court Jesters presented *The Inspector General* which was directed by Colin Taylor. He rewrote and updated Nicolai Gogol's *The Inspector General*, originally set in the 1830's in Russia. The revised version was set in late 20th century Roundstone, Nebraska.

2000 McDonald-Belton Campus Court Jesters The Court Jesters presented a comedy, *Crazy Tales*, written by and starring Michael Reed and Sid Fessler, as a benefit for the Lincoln Connection.

2000 28th Annual Inter-High According to Greg Goode, Dean of Student Services at the two North Platte Campuses, faculty and staff administered 1,780 tests to students from 49 area high schools. Tests were offered in 24 technical and academic areas, with the top three students in each category winning medals. An overall gold medal was presented to the student who received the highest overall test score regardless of the division entered. Additionally, an MPCCA tuition waiver was awarded to each school placing first, second, or third in their respective divisions. The school competition was based on the overall number of students who placed in a subject area. The school also received a trophy.

2000 *The Fantastics* at McDonald-Belton Theater The musical *The Fantastics* was presented April 21 and 22 in the McDonald-Belton Campus Theater.

2000 SOAR Session Start at MPCC Student Orientation, Advising and Registration sessions for students intending to enroll in the fall term at either of the North Platte campuses began at McDonald-Belton Campus.

Students were able to complete necessary forms, take a placement test, and register for fall term classes. They also could meet with an advisor, financial aid and scholarship counselors, and student service personnel.

2000 MPCC Phi Theta Kappa Earns International Top 25 Award For the second time in three years, the Mid-Plains College Phi Theta Kappa chapter Alpha Beta Theta won an international ranking as a “Top 25 Chapter in Service.” In 1998 the local PTK ranked seventh internationally for in-service hallmark, “Aids Awareness.” In 2000 the chapter ranked eighth for its in-service hallmark, “The America Reads Challenge.”

Facilities

1993-1996 Physical Plant Changes at McDonald-Belton While there were no major physical plant and infrastructure changes during this time, there were some lesser modifications. Under the direction of Dr. Bill Griffin, then campus vice-president, changes were made in the main office area of McDonald-Belton. The office area lighting was improved along with various work stations for the college administrative and support personnel. However, all of the improvements were done with the goal of better serving students. Along with the office area improvements, McDonald-Belton’s computer network infrastructure continued to grow. In addition, there were improvements in office space for faculty, and some limited changes and improvements in classrooms, including the development of distance learning classrooms.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1994-2000 McDonald-Belton Full-time Enrollment During this time, McDonald-Belton full-time enrollment ranged from 375 to 400 students first semester to 350 to 400 students second semester.

1994-2000 McDonald-Belton Part-time Enrollment From 400 to 450 part-time students were enrolled each semester on the McDonald-Belton Campus. Distance learning via T-1 lines was used to deliver coursework to off-campus locations. As with the Voc-Tech Campus, the main off-campus locations continued to be Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine and McCook.

1994-2000 McDonald-Belton Student Placement and Continuing Education Academic students continuing their education ranged from 70% to 80% and those employed ranged from 50% to 60% over the five-year time period.

1994-2000 Classes and Programs Although there are always updates and modifications, most of the divisions of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Health Occupations remained stable.

1994-2000 Community Services An important new direction to increase enrollments in the health care area involved EMS (Emergency Medical Service) training. By using an expanded distance learning system, Community Services was able to deliver EMS classes to area towns on Saturday mornings through the high school distance learning classrooms. This approach was cost-effective and efficient as one instructor could teach a class from North Platte and reach three other sites in the college area.

Another fast growing area during this time was computer training at a variety of levels. Weekend and evening computer classes were very popular, and with the use of lap top computers, delivery of this type of training to area communities was possible. The Community Services Program made a strong effort to work closely with Chamber of Commerce organizations in North Platte, Ogallala, and Valentine and doubled enrollments in business related seminars during these years. Using the Internet to buy, sell, and promote business services was developing during this time, and the North Platte Community Services Program worked closely with the Electronic Commerce Resource Center from Palestine, Texas, to deliver the latest innovations to many communities in the college area.

ACT Test Prep seminars were started during this time and were a good service for area high school students and also an opportunity to recruit potential college students. Another new program designed to attract potential students and serve area schools was the development of an annual conference aimed at informing young women about the career opportunities available in the areas of math and science. The Expanding Your Horizons conference in North Platte became one of the most successful career conferences in Nebraska and attracted over 300 girls each year. The conference featured women professionals presenting information about career opportunities to female junior high and senior high school students.

Through the efforts of the Community Services Program, North Platte Community College was selected in the mid-1990's to host the only out-state site for the motivational "School is Cool Jam" sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The first year that Community Services co-sponsored the Jam, there were over 2,000 area high school students

attending, and in following years, the program was expanded to serve over 4,000 area students.

1996 Graduate Follow-up Survey According to Angie Pacheco, planning and recruitment director, 68 percent of the 1994-1995 graduates from McDonald-Belton academic transfer and pre-professional graduates were working toward bachelor's degrees. Eleven percent of the Voc-Tech graduates continued their education with more than half enrolled in another Mid-Plains program.

1997 ACT CAAP Testing Begins The Collegiate Assessment of Academic Performance Test was administered to second-year, degree-seeking, students at McDonald-Belton campus in the spring of 1997 (also given for nursing students at Voc-Tech). Students who completed the test received scores which indicated if they were at, above, or below the norms for public two-year colleges in the United States.

1997 Distance Learning As of late fall 1997, the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Mid-Plains Community College had agreed that advanced credit courses could be delivered through telecommunication technology from UNL to North Platte. Dorothy Davis was hired to facilitate the process.

1998 Distance Learning Beginning in the fall of 1998, a number of academic classes were facilitated by electronic distance delivery systems. The distance delivery system also began to be used to conduct inter-campus meetings, in an effort to save time and money.

1999 A Chadron State Presence Bobi Johnson was hired by Chadron State College to be officed on the McDonald-Belton Campus. Chadron State wanted to expand its program offerings in North Platte which were bachelor degrees in business, criminal justice, and elementary education. In time, Chadron officials also planned to deliver some master's level work.

1999 Administrative Change The Mid-Plains Community College Area eliminated 55 department chairperson positions, down from 62 to 7. No one was terminated on any campus; it was primarily reorganization and consolidation.

1999 MBA Possible at McDonald-Belton In April, representatives from the University of Nebraska at Kearney were at McDonald-Belton for informational sessions on the Master's of Business Administration program which they were considering delivering to North Platte. The

session was conducted by Bruce Elder (an alumnus of North Platte Junior College and former adjunct instructor in the business department at McDonald-Belton), Director of the MBA program at Kearney.

1999 Ruth (Wohler) McKay's Program In April, education students participated in a field experience class and were busy volunteering their services in a number of ways. Some included day-care or nursing home settings. Another was to volunteer for the Adult Basic Education program at the college.

2000 New Members Join the Business Advisory Committee Four new members joined the Business Advisory Committee at Mid-Plains Community College, McDonald-Belton Campus. They were Richard Baier of DEVCO, Pat Dannatt from The North Platte *Telegraph*, Roger Miller from Whitetail Finance, and Ken Stenehjem from Nebraska Machinery.

Sports

1994 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Jennifer Tjaden, Yolanda Milton, Staci Warren, Tara Deeds, Jennifer Rowland, Mindy Burns, Shiela Stark, Markella Finley, Kisha Gracey, April Hydak, Sandra Stock, and Molly Moore. The coach was Sally Thalken. The student managers were Kevin Martin and Hector Morales. The most valuable player was Yolanda Milton. April Hydak, Yolanda Milton, Jennifer Rowland, and Jennifer Tjaden were named to the All-Conference team; April Hydak and Yolanda Milton were named to the All-Region IX team; and Yolanda Milton was named to the All-Tourney team. Yolanda Milton was also a second team All-American.

1994-1995 Men's Basketball Terry Brown, Shawn Garner, Andy Gillen, Gary Griffin, Oswego Harper, Andre Harris, Brian Howard, Antonio Iseah, Arzell Jackson, Gabe Moeller, Ryan Phifer, Micah Phortmiller, Myron Simms, Frank White, Terry Williams, and Bronson Wood. O'Connor was the coach.

1994-1995 Lady Knights' Basketball The 1994-1995 team members were Jennifer Tjaden, Staci Warren, Linda Kusek, Amy Pankonin, Kisha Gracey, Jessica Kennicut, Leslie Stillmock, Melodi Liebhart, and Molly Moore. The coach was Craig Stephens. The student manager was Tracy Robinson.

1995 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Jennifer Tjaden, Jenny Grant, Jenni Stritt, Donica Lee, Heidi Bottorf, Mindy Burns, Sheila

Stark, Harmoni Call, Dusty Tomlinson, Nicole Paider, and Molly Moore. The coach was Sally Thalken. The most valuable player was Jennifer Tjaden. Mindy Burns was named to the All-Conference Team, to the All-Region IX Team, and to the All-Tourney Team.

1995-1996 Men's Basketball Terry Brown, Jason Epting, Jason Essex, Clay Ferris, Andy Gillen, Andy Haag, Andre Harris, Brian Howard, Gabe Moeller, Dan O'Neill, Ryan Phifer, Micah Phortmiller, Doug Rogers, Marion Seymore, Justin Thomalla, LaDwan Tucker, Nate Turner, Frank White, John Williams, and Bronson Wood.

1995-1996 Lady Knights Basketball Jennifer Tjaden, Tricia Graf, Kari Jo Fisher, Kim Malleck, Jody Halouska, Mindy Lueking, Jessica Kennicutt, Donica Lee, Karla Cooley, Leslie Stillmock, and Melody Liebhart.

1996 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Jennifer Nickolite, Kerri Morrison, Melissa Everitt, MacKenzie Richter, Harmoni Call, Traci Sones, Heather Larson, Dusty Tomlinson, Veronica Jividen, Nicole Paider, and Kerry Preble. The coach was Sally Thalken. The most valuable player was Dusty Tomlinson. Harmoni Call, Nicole Paider, and Dusty Tomlinson were named to the All-Conference Team, and Dusty Tomlinson was named to the All-Region IX Team.

1996-1997 Mens Basketball Austin Bell, Nigel Berghan, Jason Epting, Jason Essex, Clay Ferris, Paul Gilg, Andy Haag, Lawrence Hayes, Reggie Jackson, Scott Kuester, Robert Mitchell, Dan O'Neill, Willie Roberts, Doug Rogers, Marion Seymore, Justin Thomalla, LaDwan Tucker, Nate Turner, and John Williams. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1996-1997 Lady Knights Basketball Roster not available


1997 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Amber Wahl, Kelli Cross, Angie Meisner, Kerri Morrison, Lara Briney, Melissa Everitt, MacKenzie Richter, Megan Wilkie, Allison Slama, Lori Miller, Nashea Hyer, and Lisa Miller. The coach was Sally Thalken. Kelli Cross was the most valuable player. Kelli Cross, Angie Meisner, and MacKenzie Richter were named to the All-Conference Team; and Angie Meisner was also selected for the All-Region IX Team.

1997-1998 Men's Basketball Austin Bell, Nigel Berghan, David Blake, D'LAN Davidson, Willie Garner, Paul Gilg, Brodrick Gray, Lawrence Hayes, Reggie Jackson, Alvydas Jocys, Brian Judy, Scott Koester, Jason

McDonald, Robert Mitchell, Eric Price, and Willie Roberts. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.







1997-1998 Lady Knights Basketball Jennifer Cattnach, Melissa Everitt, Nancee Downing, Becky Welch, Lynette Smity, Lori Millere, Carrie Allington, Brandi Bauer, Nashea Hyer, and Lisa Miller. Shawn Gilbert was the Coach.

1998 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Christine Allen, Kelli Cross, Angie Meismer, Lara Briney, Clancy Cox, Londa Gosnell, Jessica Kockrow, Tiffany Gerren, Allison Slama, Nashea Hyer, and Lisa Miller. The coach was Sally Thalken. Kelli Cross was the most valuable player. Kelli Cross, Angie Meismer, and Allison Slama were named to the All-Conference Team; and Angie Meismer was named to the All-Region IX Team.

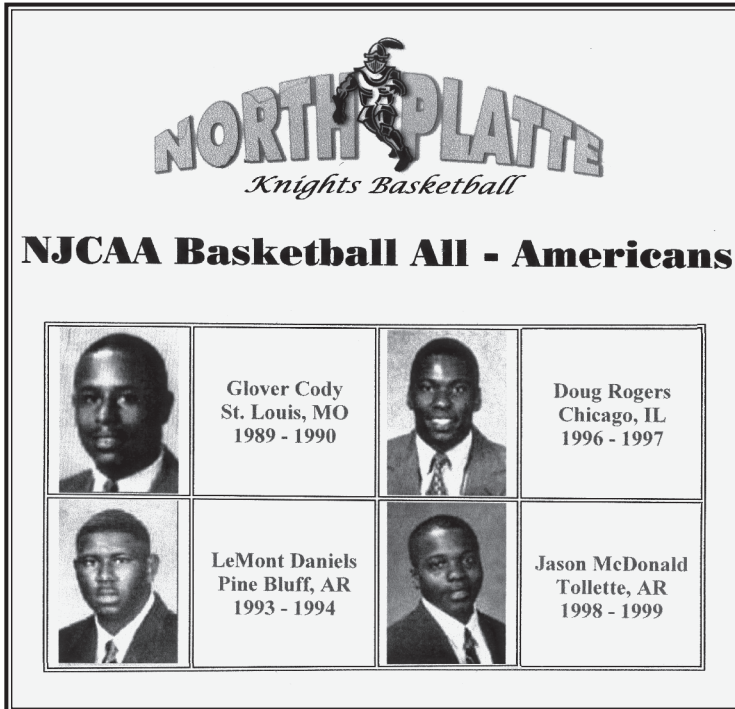


NORTH PLATTE
Lady Knight Volleyball

All Americans

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| Carolyn Williams | Suzi Cooper | Lauri Tomas |
| 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
| First Team | Honorable Mention | Second Team |
|  |  |  |
| Karla Slingsby | Julie Barner | Yolonda Milton |
| 1987 | 1990 | 1994 |
| Honorable Mention | Second Team | Second Team |

1998-1999 Men's Basketball Jerrad Allen, Matt Allen, David Blake, D'Lan Davidson, Willie Garner, Brodrick Gray, Mike Harris, Marius Janisius, Alvydas Jocys, Bryan Judy, Nerijus Karlikanovas, Seneca Kelley, Jason McDonald, Gabe Olson, Eric Price, L.C. Reid, Jason Schommer, Michael Timberlake, and Wes Wells. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.



1998-1999 Lady Knights Basketball Darla Arensdorf, Mindi Holm, Jennifer Catnach, Libs Devine, Nancee Downing, Alison Thim, Terri Sonnenfelt, Nickie Rotert, Carrie Allington, Brandi Bauer, Jill Schultheiss, Jenny Brestel, Nashea Hyer, Alayna Seidensticker, and Caprecia Christianson. The coach was Shawn Gilbert.

1999 Lady Knights Volleyball The team members were Mandy Poss, Melissa Ballard, Christina Allen, Katie Schick, Londa Gosnell, Clancy Cox, Jamie Robinson, Jessica Kockrow, Tiffany Gerren, Amy Slack, Kristen Palmesano, Mandy Seebohm, and Angela McCormick. The coach was Sally Thalken. The most valuable player was Clancy Cox. Christine Allen, Clancy Cox, and Amy Slack were named to the All-Conference Team; Christine Allen, Clancy Cox, and Amy Slack were named to the

All-Region IX Team; and Clancy Cox, Kristen Palmesano, Mandy Poss, and Amy Slack were named to the All-Tourney Team.

1999-2000 Men's Basketball Mindaugas Adamonis, Jerrad Allen, Matt Allen, Nick Collins, Torrey Gail, Alex Haag, Tyler Hampton, Mike Harris, Marius Janisius, Matt Kaldenberg, Seneca Kelley, Nick Koehn, Taurus Mason, Gabe Olson, L.C. Reid, Justyne Savage, Jason Schommer, Tomas Sitnikovas, Michael Timberlake, and Wes Wells. Kevin O'Connor was the coach.

1999-2000 Lady Knights Basketball Roster not available.

Unusual /Notable

1998 Former All-American Returns Lamont Daniels, a former basketball player for the MPCC Knights, returned to North Platte and assisted Coach O'Conner during the 1998-1999 season.

1998 PTK Honors The Alpha Beta Theta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at McDonald-Belton Campus was recognized as one of PTK's top chapters internationally. The Alpha Beta Theta Chapter competed in the national PTK's Hallmark Awards Program, which recognizes excellence in programs and projects that promote the Phi Theta Kappa's Hallmarks of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Fellowship. The Chapter competed against a pool of 650 other chapters worldwide. The Alpha Beta Theta chapter received the "Top 25 Chapter in Service" certificate.

1999 Phi Beta Lambda At the beginning of the 1999-2000 academic year, Kent Weilage resigned as the Phi Beta Lambda co-sponsor. Since that time, Angie Chittick has assisted Jean Condon in building and strengthening the Sigma Omega Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at North Platte Community College. Since the Chapter was reactivated in 1997, it had had the highest number of members in two-year colleges in the state and four times has also led the state in the percentage of increase of members. One benefit of being in Phi Beta Lambda is that it allows members of the group to compete with other PBL members in state and national competition.

MID-PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
-VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CAMPUS 1994-2000

(now referenced as the North Platte Community College North Campus)

Administration 1996-2000

| | |
|--|---|
| Dean of Vocational Instruction | Kenneth L. Aten (retired in August 1999 and was replaced by Vice President for both North Platte Campuses—Steven Hoyle) |
| Associate Dean of Student Outreach and Customized Training | G. Bruce Dowse |
| Associate Dean of Career Assessment and Special Services. | William D. Eakins |
| Director of Placement and Recruitment | Angela K. Pacheco |
| Associate Director of Career Assessment Center | Angie Chittick (transferred to teaching position in 1996, replaced by Cindy Lupomech). |
| Director of Physical Plant | Ronald W. Axtell |

Faculty 1996-2000

| | |
|--|--|
| Dental Assisting | Rose White |
| Nursing (Practical and Associate Degree) | Barbara Christensen, Judith Gutschenritter, Diane Hoffmann, Elaine Kockrow, Elaine Maseberg, Linda Nielson, Lois Stebbins, Julie Van Wyke, Linda Miles, (replaced by Winifred Dolph in 1997), Jane Peterson (replaced by Misty Richards in 1998) |

| | |
|--|---|
| Auto Body | Don Wilson |
| Auto Mechanics | Michael Kava, Lowell Fenster retired in 1998 (replaced by Bryan Herrick) |
| Diesel Mechanics | Russell Berggren, Kent Beel |
| Welding and Metals | Tim Golden |
| Electronics | Gordon Koch, Richard Stephens |
| Electrical | Ivan Nickerson |
| Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning | Leonard Van Ert, Nels Clang |
| Building Construction | Ronald Norrie (replaced in 1996 by Dennis Ekdahl), Don Kuhlman (retired in 1997, position not filled) |
| Drafting | Hanford Lynn |
| Computer Information Specialist | Frank Freeman, retired 1998, (program replaced by Information Technology) taught by Julie Goans |

Student Affairs and Activities

1995 Student Contests and Activities Most of the trade and technical departments continued to be very active with post-secondary VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). They participated in the State Skills Contests with some students qualifying for National Competition in which the following placed very well.

1995 2nd Place *Electronic Tech* **John Haugland** *North Platte*
 Instructors Gordon Koch, Richard Stephens

1995 5th Place Electronics James Stensvad McCook
Gordon Koch, Richard Stephens

1995 Student Recognition John Haugland, a second year electronic student of North Platte won second place in Electronics Technology at the 31st Annual United States Skills-USA Championship, sponsored by VICA which was held in Kansas City, Missouri. John competed against post-secondary students in Electronic Technology from 50 states and Puerto Rico.

1996 Student Recognized in Nursing Sylvia Sawyer of Indianola was named January Student Nurse of the Month by the Evening Business and Professional Women. The faculty at the Voc-Tech made the selection of Ms. Sawyer. Sawyer commented she had a special interest in intensive care and cardiac.

1996 Department Technical Students of the Year 1996 Community College Month at the Voc-Tech was celebrated by the naming of Vocational Students of the Year. They were Jeffrey Brabec-HVAC; Charles Downey-Diesel Mechanics; Loren Leonard-Electronics; Carol Miller-ADN Nursing; Todd Pankonin-Welding and Machine; Timothy Schmid-Building Construction; Steve Statz-Automotive Technology; and Jamie Zogg-Drafting, Design, and CAD.

1994-2000 Student Placement and Continuing Education Vocational students continuing their education ranged from 3% to 5%. The percentage of students completing vocational programs obtaining employment ranged from 89% to 97% over the five-year time period. Students preferred local employment placement ranging from 60% to 75% in the 18 county area and 88% to 98% in the state of Nebraska.

Graduation Usually most students completed their two- or four-semester programs in the spring with Commencement being held in the spring around the middle of May. Consequently, students in one-year, three-semester programs who completed in the fall had been out of classes for nine months and very few came back to attend graduation.

Originally, there were only three three-semester programs, but with a conversion of four four-semester programs to three-semester, commencement was also held in the fall around the end of the first week in August. The two times per year graduation exercises started during the 1990-1991 school year.

1994-2000 Nursing Graduates Pass State Board Exams The following information is for the period from fall 1994 through fall semester 2000. By the time of this reporting period, the nursing program had both LPN and ADN tracks. Since the practical nursing program students started twice each year, there were graduations and certifications twice each year, both winter and summer. Over the ten-year period included in this section of the history book, 99 percent of both LPN and ADN students passed the exams with much higher than state and national average scores.

1997 Voc-Tech Campus Student of the Year Awards

One-Year Programs

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Auto Body | Dwayne Dethlefs | Brule |
| Nursing (LPN) | Michelle Michaels | Curtis |
| Electrical Technolgy | Mathew Mason | North Platte |
| Building Construction | Deaver Arrants | Bridgeport |
| Drafting Design | Steven Schiltz | North Platte |

Two-Year Programs

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Automotive | Richard Bates | North Platte |
| MLT Associate Degree | Andrea German | Maxwell |
| Diesel Technology | John Hardy | North Platte |
| Drafting/CAD | John Dorwart | North Platte |
| Assoc. Degree Nursing | Michelle Steele | Ogallala |
| Electronics | Lawrence Petra | North Platte |
| Heating, Vent. & A.C. | Kenneth Deibert | North Platte |
| Welding and Machine | Rendale Meyer | North Platte |

1997 House for Sale The house constructed by the Voc-Tech Construction and Design Division was auctioned off in May of 1997. Robert and Sandra Lampmann of Madrid had the winning bid at \$63,200 for the three-bedroom, two-bath house.

1997 Vocational Open House and Art Fair In the Vocational portion of this event, there were 37 medals and eight trophies awarded for Area high school students.

1998 Vocational/Art Fair Various types of original art by Area high school students were on display at McDonald-Belton. The Voc-Tech Campus had drafting, woodworking, and metal projects on display. Another home built by the building construction students was auctioned off for \$59,000 to John and Julie Krave from Mullen, Nebraska. The house was 1,600 square feet and was complete except for furnace and hot water heater. Part of the arrangement was that the house be moved to the site of the purchaser.

Over the years, the Voc-Tech students built 23 homes in 29 years. During the 1980's and early 1990's the classes built student housing on the Voc-Tech campus.

1998 Voc-Tech Campus Student of the Year Awards

One-Year Programs

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Information Technology | Peter Garcia Odvarka | North Platte |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|

Two-Year Programs

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Automotive Technology | Richard Shively | North Platte |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Diesel Technology | Daniel B. McNeel | North Platte |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Associate Degree Nursing | Stephanie Jacobson | Arnold |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------|

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Electronics | Nancy White | Anselmo |
|-------------|-------------|---------|

| | | |
|------|-----------|--------------|
| HVAC | Owen Zogg | North Platte |
|------|-----------|--------------|

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Welding and Machine | Anthony Borchard | North Platte |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|

1998 Voc-Tech Winners at State VICA Contest The following Voc-Tech students were winners in several VICA Contest categories: 1) Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, First Place—Travis Koperski, Second Place—Ronald Soucek, Third Place—Daniel Markussen; 2) Electronic Product Servicing Post-Secondary, First Place—Ron Barnes, Second Place—Nancy White; 3) Electronic Technology-Post-Secondary, Third Place—Geoff Burks.

1999 MPCC Annual Inter-High Technical-Scholastic Contest The Contest held at both Voc-Tech and McDonald-Belton attracted nearly 1,300 high school students from 48 high schools. While the top students in each testing category received medals, it was the high schools that were awarded the scholarships. Each high school could earn up to two scholarships. Then the school administration would determine who received the scholarships. The Mid-Plains Community College Area awarded 24 full-tuition scholarships to be used at either North Platte or at McCook.

1999 MPCC Open House and Vocational Art Fair In the vocational fair section of the Voc-Tech Campus, Jim Griffen from Medicine Valley High School at Curtis won best of show with his gun cabinet. Along with the trophy, he received a two-year tuition waiver to Mid-Plains Community College. Renae Robertson from Wheatland High School received the Past Director's Award for her buffet with china hutch.

At the Art Fair on the McDonald-Belton Campus, Julie Kearney of Overton High School entered an acrylic and oil painting "Colorado Tortuga," that was purchased and included in the permanent College collection.

Taking best of show was Mullen High School's R.J. Hardy with a three-dimensional ceramic work: "Swirled Luster," and Overton High School's Katrina McCarter who won in the two-dimensional category for her acrylic and oil painting: "Butterflies."

2000 Students Using Their Building Skills The Mid-Plains Community College Area's Student Homebuilder's Club recently built a garden shed and a child's playhouse as fund-raising projects. The playhouse sold for over \$1,000 at the Great Plains Regional Medical Center fundraiser.

2000 Voc-Tech Students Earn Awards In March 2000, students at Mid-Plains Voc-Tech brought home top places in heating, ventilation and air conditioning competition and electronic technology from the Skills USA-Vocational Industrial Clubs of America state conference in March. Brian Schroeder was first in HVAC, Brian Gutchewsky received second, and Eric Cardiff was third. Kim Johnson took second in electronic technology.

2000 MPCC Voc-Tech Class to Sell House by Sealed Bid Each year the Building and Construction Division builds a complete three-bedroom home as part of the hands-on aspect of their training. In the past, the house had been sold by public auction. However, this year the house was sold by sealed bid.

Facilities

Distance Learning Costs The on-campus distance delivery LPN classroom was established at a cost of \$50,000 which was partially funded by a grant. The room would accommodate 30 on-campus students.

Facilities 1996-2000 The West Shop Building of 7,200 square feet, built in 1979 originally used for Auto-Body, was remodeled to provide the Electrical Shop sufficient space in 1994. The Electrical Building of 3,040 square feet, built in 1985, was remodeled to provide space for the Union Pacific Railroad craft-shop instruction in 1995.

1996 Fire on Voc-Tech Campus A maintenance building on the Voc-Tech campus burned to the ground. The fire was caused by a faulty ceiling furnace. North Platte Fire Marshal George Lewis noted that it was difficult to extinguish because of the herbicides, pesticides, and petroleum-based chemicals that were stored within the building. The total loss was estimated at \$200,000.

Area Administrative Offices By June of 2000, Area Administrative offices were moved from the original Junior College Building at 5th and Jeffers to the McDonald-Belton and Voc-Tech Campus locations. The 1913 Federal Building as renovated and opened in 1965 with 23,000 square feet of space to provide for academic instruction was more than was needed for the Area Office. The approximate cost of operating and maintaining the building, at this time, was \$60,000 annually. The building was purchased by bid for \$127,000 by Alan Erickson who donated the building to the City of North Platte.

Instructional Affairs, Instructional Activity and Programs

1996-2000 Voc-Tech Campus Full-time Enrollment Voc-Tech full-time student enrollment from 1996 to 2000 ranged from approximately 300 to 350 students first semester and 275 to 325 students the second semester. Most full-time students attended on campus with the exception of nursing students at McCook and Valentine. Distance learning by satellite was used for several of the off-campus nursing students.

1996-2000 Voc-Tech Campus Part-Time Enrollment A part-time enrollment of 775 to 825 students both semesters in vocational classes was primarily at night on campus although several were at off-campus locations utilizing public school or industrial facilities. The main off-campus locations continued to be Ogallala, Broken Bow, Valentine and McCook; however, some classes were taught in smaller communities.

1994-2000 Changes/Updates at Voc-Tech During this period, Health Occupations remained rather stable, but instructional delivery systems began to change. In the fall of 1999, MPCC was the first college in the state to offer its Practical Nursing program electronically. The first year, the program was provided to Valentine, Nebraska, 133 miles to the north. During this time, plans were made to deliver the LPN program electronically to Broken Bow. The already existing site at McCook would then be converted from a traditional delivery system to the distance system.

The LPN distance instructional system resulted in a room being dedicated for such distance delivery; however, it was still available for a number of other classes as well. The LPN distance delivery system allowed off-campus students to take the classes along with on campus students who were sitting in the dedicated classroom.

Other Changes Some departments in Trade and Technical Occupations experienced considerable adjustment because of low second-year enrollments.

Building and Construction and Drafting and Design, both of which had moderately good first-year enrollments, were returning only about half of their students for the second year. Welding and Machine Shop Departments had the same problem, though to a lesser degree. Auto and Diesel Mechanics Department had an attrition problem, but the first-year enrollments were so large that they still had good second-year enrollment. Auto Body and Electrical Programs had always done well with a one-year (12 month both semesters) program. Then, in 1997 Building Construction, Drafting and Design, and Welding and Machine Shop programs were converted from two-year four-semester programs to one-year three-semester programs leading to a Vocational Diploma. The quality of the one-year program was maintained by retaining the essential areas of instruction for employment and only touching on areas that would be helpful to know but not essential. As an example, in Building Construction Concrete and Masonry, Framing, and Finish Work are essential, but extensive Cabinet-Making is not.

Computer Programs Changes To meet the changing needs for employees working with computers, the Computer Information Specialist program was replaced by the Information Technology Program. The emphasis of this program was in the areas of personal computer support, computer programming, network technology, and integrated application systems.

Union Pacific Railroad Union Pacific Craftshop and Apprenticeship classes continued to develop and grow. The number of Diesel and Electrical apprentices varied by year, but there were usually eight in each department, although some times as many as twelve. In order to enhance and provide proper training, the Union Pacific Railroad donated many parts and components including engines from two diesel locomotives. In March of 1999, UPRR delivered a complete locomotive to the Vocational Technical Campus.

After working approximately two years with Union Pacific Railroad Management Union and training officials on curriculum and time schedules, an arrangement was made with Mid-Plains Voc-Tech to include six electrical and six mechanical Diesel Shop Apprentices in Electrical, Diesel Mechanic and Welding/Machine Shop Programs at Mid-Plains Voc-Tech for the 1994-1995 college year were in operation.



The Union Pacific Railroad Apprentices were with other students in the programs who were taking classes that provided technical background and applications to the maintenance of diesel-electric locomotives. These classes were one-half day (8:00-12:00) for three semester hours over 12 months. Non-railroad students took other classes that did not pertain to railroad training in the afternoon. Apprenticeship students took 2/3 to 3/4 of the total program each semester for 12 months.

Enrollments during this time averaged about eight electrical and eight mechanical students. However, during the 1998-1999 year, there were 12 electrical and 18 mechanical students because of extra employment demand. Mid-Plains Voc-Tech also worked with Union Pacific and their instructional personnel to provide specialized Shop Craft training on the Voc-Tech campus. These were short-term, one-to four-week classes that were repeated with different personnel. For example, in one year the Shop Craft training generated 22,000 student contact hours of instruction which was equivalent to about 24 full-time equivalent students.

During this time, UPRR donated a complete locomotive and needed parts. This was delivered to the Voc-Tech Campus on March 3, 1999. It was greatly appreciated and was considered a valuable addition for instruction.

1996 Report: Most MPCCA Graduates Stay in the State Most 1994-1995 graduates of the Voc-Tech found jobs in Nebraska. Survey work indicated that 81 percent of the Voc-Tech Campus 1994-1995 graduates gained jobs in their fields of training, according to recruiting director, Angie Pacheco. Ninety-seven percent of Voc-Tech graduates found jobs in Nebraska, and 75 percent of the graduates were working in the Mid-Plains 18-county area.

1998 Welding Class MPCC Voc-Tech offered a welding and machine shop class at Maxwell High School for the first time.

1998 Fiber Optics When the wave of the future, fiber optics technology, was offered as a class at the Voc-Tech, Ivan (Ike) Nickerson was the instructor.

1998 Class at Arnold High School The Voc-Tech offered an electronics class to students at Arnold High School. As a pilot project, the class was offered by way of CD ROM rather than fiber optics because of the difficulty of coordinating schedules.

1999 February Career Assessment Center: A Well-Kept Secret The Mid-Plains Community College Assessment Center is one of the least tapped resources that Mid-Plains offers according to Bill Eakins, Associate Dean of Career Assessment, from a prospective college student's first steps into post-secondary education to an educated person's research into a possible second career.

2000 Education Station Offers Union Pacific Employees Access To Education The Education Station was a schoolhouse for UP employees and their family members developed during this time. Wanda Hornbacher, instructor, provided computer training, keyboarding instruction, and using electronic mail; and the Education Station was also an Adult Basic Education site, which prepared students for the General Equivalency Diploma tests. Education Station involved a partnership between UP and Mid-Plains Community College. It was located at the Union Pacific Bailey Yards.

2000 LPN Program To Be Offered by Satellite Mid-Plains was the first college in the state to offer a full-time distance-learning nursing program, according to Pauline Shahan, Director of the Licensed Practical Nursing Department.

2000 Voc-Tech Building Construction Students and Habitat for Humanity During the summer session, Voc-Tech building construction students experienced more "hands-on" learning as they helped build Habitat houses in North Platte. They worked on the Habitat projects from Monday through Thursday and were back on campus for Friday class.

Unusual/Notable

1999 New Higher Education Options for Area Nurses In May, Carol Pullen, Assistant Dean for Rural Nursing Education at UNL, said the bachelor's and master's degree programs would be offered in North Platte using the latest in educational delivery systems. The courses would be available via the internet or computer-to-computer connections.

1999 Commencement Address In May, Governor Johanns gave the commencement address to the graduates of Mid-Plains Community College on May 15 at McDonald-Belton.

1999 Mother and Daughter Graduate Together In May, Kristi Lovette graduated from Mid-Plains Community College with the expectation of eventually earning a degree in graphic arts, perhaps at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Her mother, Cindy, earned her degree in

office technology with the expectation of taking additional business administration classes from UNK or Chadron.

MID - PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA 1987-2010

OUTSTANDING GRADUATES: AN IMPORTANT LEGACY OF A COLLEGE SYSTEM

This current history book concerns the development of the Mid-Plains Community College Area system and its institutions. By the mid-1980's, Nebraska Community College (Board) Association, had developed the scope and sequence of its activities. One such activity was naming a Distinguished Community College Alumnus for each of the six community college Areas within the State on an annual basis beginning with 1987. A listing of these alumni for MPCCA with a brief narrative on each one follows:

1987 William Harris (MC) Bill Harris graduated from McCook Junior College in 1959. Following his graduation from the University of Nebraska, he assisted in his family business and took responsibilities for the ranch operation in McCook. His varied business and political career was highlighted by election as Lincoln Mayor, and he later served in the Nebraska Unicameral. He passed away in January of 2011. He is survived by his wife, Mary Sue Hormel, who resides in Lincoln, Nebraska.

1988 Dr. Michael Downing (NP) Michael Downing was a first-year student in the fall of 1967 at North Platte Junior College where he was Business Manager of the *Knights Page* which was the student newspaper. He transferred to Chadron State College. Later, he did graduate study at Oklahoma State University.

1989 Dr. Henry Weeth (MC) Dr. Weeth graduated from McCook Junior College in 1933 and went on to the University of Nebraska where he completed a degree at the University School of Dentistry. He served in World War II as a troop train commander. After the war, he returned to Seattle as a dentist. His avocation was serving as a band leader. Dr. Weeth's last performance was with a band for the 70th Anniversary of the College. Henry Weeth was a benefactor to MCC and the University of Nebraska School of Dentistry.

1990 Kenneth Huffman (NP) Kenneth Huffman graduated from North Platte Junior College in 1969 with an Associate of Science degree. He went on to the University of Nebraska College of Engineering and graduated with high distinction in 1971. He worked for the Electric Power Research Institute which was located in Knoxville, Tennessee; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Palo Alto, California. He retired from the Air Force Reserve with the rank of Lt. Colonel. He lives in Dallas, Georgia.

1991 Harry Krogh (MC) Harry M. Krogh, president of Osh Kosh Corporation, attended McCook Junior College from 1947 to 1949 and then earned his B.A. degree at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln and his M.B. A. at the University of Denver. After college, Mr. Krogh worked for Arthur Andersen & Co. for 14 years; then he held positions with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co., Bendix Home Systems Group, and IU Distribution Services before joining Florsheim Shoe Co. in October 1974. At Florsheim, he worked his way up from Vice President of Finance to President and Chief Executive Officer before being named president and Chief Operating Officer of Interco, Florsheim's parent corporation in June 1985. Mr. Krogh served on the Board of Trustees of Nebraska Wesleyan University for several years. He also was a trustee at St. Louis University and was on the executive committees for the St. Louis Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Arts and Education Council in St. Louis, and the Taxpayers Research Institute of Missouri.

1992 Ronald Axtell (NP) Ron Axtell graduated from MPCC Voc-Tech with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in 1971. As of January 2012, Ron will have worked for the North Platte college locations for 40 years. He has been involved in one way or another with every building project related to the North Platte College locations. Currently he is Physical Resources Director for both of the North Platte campus locations. His other commitments have been United States Army Reserves, involvement with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and membership in the Eagles and Moose clubs.

1993 Wendell Cheney (MC) Wendell P. Cheney was in the first graduating class of McCook Junior College in 1928 and subsequently graduated from the University of Nebraska Law School in 1935. Since graduating from law school, Wendell had a long and distinguished career in law and in the community of McCook. After graduation, he practiced law with his father. He also was McCook City Attorney from 1936 until 1939. His judicial appointments included posts as City Judge from 1946-48 and as Red Willow County Judge from 1948-77. The last four years of

his Red Willow County judgeship, Mr. Cheney also was county judge in all counties of the 14th Judicial District.

As a member of the American Legion, having served three years in the Army during World War II, Mr. Cheney was for 15 years the county chairman of Cornhusker Boys and Girls County Government and was the first Red Willow County Service Officer. Mr. Cheney also assisted other organizations, including the American Red Cross, where he was county chairman for five years; the YMCA Board; the Boy Scouts of America, where he served as assistant scoutmaster, institutional representative, and Merit Badge counselor; the Audubon Society; the Nature Conservancy; and the World Wildlife Fund.

1994 James O'Rourke (NP) James O'Rourke, the former Lincoln County judge who died April 21, 1991, was a 1975 graduate of Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte. After graduation from Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte, Judge O'Rourke earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics at Kearney State College, and a law degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Subsequently, he was deputy county attorney for Dawson County from 1980 to 1982. After that, he practiced law with a private firm, Smith & Smith, of Lexington for four years, from 1982 to 1986. Then, in 1986, he became the Dawson County Attorney, a post he held until 1989 when he returned to North Platte. His return to North Platte, where he was born and graduated from high school, was prompted by an appointment by then-Governor of Nebraska Kay Orr to the post of county judge in Lincoln County. His appointment, he had said, was "a wonderful opportunity for me to come home." He remained as Lincoln County judge until his death in 1991.

Judge O'Rourke was a member of several civic groups and was president of the Kiwanis Club. He was a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association and the Nebraska County Judges' Association. He was also an active church member and choir member at Bethel Evangelical Free Church in North Platte.

Regarding his education at Mid-Plains Community College, the North Platte *Telegraph* had previously quoted Judge O'Rourke in a newspaper article as saying, "Mid-Plains Community College provided me with a quality education that I can be proud of."

1995 Nels Clang (NP) Nels Clang was a 1972 graduate of Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte with an associate of applied science degree in HVAC Technology and one in Electronics Technology.

He subsequently returned to college as a refrigeration and heating/ventilation/air conditioning instructor at Mid-Plains Voc-Tech Campus. After completing his degree at Mid-Plains, he attended Kearney State College. Mr. Clang provided “outstanding contribution to our students,” said Mr. Ken Aten, president of the Voc-Tech Campus.

In addition to his 22 years as an instructor in North Platte, Mr. Clang was switchman on the Union Pacific Railroad from 1968 to 1972. His former work experience also includes the Farmer’s Co-op Association in Anselmo, Nebraska, several automobile dealerships, and Standard Oil Co. in Chicago. His experience includes over 10 years of refrigeration service experience. He is a certified member of the Refrigeration Service Engineers Society. Mr. Clang served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. Prior to his military service, he was involved in the farming and ranching business.

Nels Clang and his wife, Loretta, have five sons who all began their college careers at Mid-Plains.

1996 Mary Lou Drake (MC) Mary Lou Drake is very familiar with McCook Community College. Mrs. Drake is a graduate, her husband is a graduate, and her seven children all began their post-secondary educational careers at MCC.

She was a charter member of Phi Theta Kappa when she graduated from MCC in 1950 with an Associate of Arts degree in elementary education. “I attended college in an era when young girls were given few career options – nursing or teaching. Regardless of my choice, education was extremely important in my family,” Mrs. Drake stated.

Her association with MCC has continued. In the early 1980s, she enrolled in the MCC/NPAC program with Kearney State and completed a bachelor’s degree in business. She then worked in real estate. She was named to Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Medallion Award Club for high production and top sales.

1997 Rodney Kaufman (NP) Rodney A. Kaufman believed that education had had a dramatic impact on his life. “Prior to the July 1980 motor-cycle accident that left me a quadriplegic and facing life in a wheelchair, education for me was complete with the acquisition of a high school diploma. After many months of struggling with paralysis and the uncertainty of my destiny, I apprehensively enrolled in classes at Mid-Plains Community College,” he said. Mr. Kaufman graduated in 1983. He continued his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, graduating

in 1986 with a Bachelor's Degree in business administration. Following graduation, he began working for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) as a human resources manager. Mr. Kaufman served in this capacity at several military installations including Offutt Air Force Base (Omaha), McConnell Air Force Base (Wichita, KS), Bergstrom Air Force Base (Austin, TX), and the Waco Distribution (Waco, TX), and Human Relations Manager at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

He received many local, regional, and national awards for his work including certificates of appreciation (McConnell and Bergstrom Air Force Bases), proficiency award (McConnell Air Force Base), superior accomplishment award (Waco Distribution Center), and the Outstanding Associate with a Disability (AAFES Worldwide, 1991) Award. Mr. Kaufman has also been active in local community projects such as the San Antonio Independent Living Center Services Committee.

1998 Michael Hartwell (MC) Michael Hartwell began his relationship with McCook Community College in January 1986 when he was hired as a custodian. With prior background in construction, Mr. Hartwell quickly moved up the ladder to become a maintenance technician. He also began working toward completing a degree at McCook Community College. As a lifelong resident of McCook, Nebraska, Mr. Hartwell, one of eight children, credits his mother Dorothy for instilling his pride in both the community and the college. Dorothy was the cafeteria cook at McCook Community College for over twenty years.

In 1990, Mr. Hartwell enlisted in the McCook Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad as a volunteer firefighter and paramedic. Armed with the training he received from McCook Community College, he began helping teach a number of health occupation courses such as CPR, First Aid, EMT and Advanced Cardiac Life Support classes. In the summer of 1991, Mr. Hartwell qualified as a master custodian. This certification involved taking courses in a multitude of areas related to the physical operation of a college campus. In 1992, Mr. Hartwell was selected as McCook Community College's physical plant director. In 1993, he graduated magna cum laude with an associate of applied science degree in Business Administration and Emergency Medicine.

1999 Patrick Wood (NP) Patrick Wood graduated from Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte in 1987 with a Technical Diploma in Diesel Technology. Since that time, he has made his education, work ethic, and life-long learning program work. Mr. Wood received a scholarship to attend Mid-Plains and graduated at the top of his Diesel

Technology program. After graduation, he worked for Nebraska Tractor as a diesel mechanic for three years before joining the Union Pacific Railroad. Since that time Mr. Wood has appreciated the programs offered to him by taking over 50 training courses as he progressed from labor to machinist apprentice, assistant foreman, instructor, and finally, to his current position as senior instructor in charge of Mechanical Shop Craft Training for the Union Pacific railroad diesel shop at Mid-Plains Community Collage's Voc-Tech Campus.

2000 Janice Mumm (NP) Janice M. Mumm graduated from Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte in 1987 with an associate of arts degree.

She was awarded a scholarship to then North Platte Community College based on her scholastic achievements. This scholarship, in conjunction with the affordable tuition costs, enabled her to begin the journey for all she has accomplished thus far. "The solid foundation I received at the community college enabled me to graduate with distinction from University of Nebraska - Lincoln," said Ms. Mumm.

From her first job as a Revenue Agent with the Internal Revenue Service to her current portfolio which includes two very successful businesses she founded and co-founded, Ms. Mumm is an example of the qualified graduates who began their higher learning at community colleges. Ms. Mumm was happy to report that, "As I look back at the rosters of instructors at Mid-Plains, many of my former instructors are still assisting individuals to achieve their educational goals."

Recently, Ms. Mumm expanded a staffing service she owns to include an office in North Platte. She hired a general manager who is also a graduate of Mid-Plains, as are many others who utilize the service for employment opportunities. Ms. Mumm believes their abilities and skills can be directly linked in large measure to their education at Mid-Plains. A notable achievement for Janice Mumm was to be the first woman elected to serve as chairperson of the Nebraska Society of Certified Public Accountants in 1996.

2001 J.T. Harris, Jr. (MC) J.T. Harris graduated from McCook Community College in 1957 and went on to complete a bachelor's degree in business at the University of Nebraska. He returned to McCook to operate DeGroffs Department Store. With his parents and brothers, he also started the Lots to Love, Inc. line of stores which grew to 31 stores in 19 states. Over time, Harris served on the MPCCA Board of Governors

and later on the McCook College Foundation Board. He has also served on many community organizations for the community of McCook

2002 Dr. Laurie Aten (NP) Laurie Aten received her Machine Data Processing Technology Diploma from the Voc-Tech Campus of Mid-Plains Community College Area in May, 1974. She secured the Data Processing diploma so she could work her way through medical school. The review of Laurie's application to medical school noted, "The route you have taken by enrolling in a data processing program indicates you are not project oriented, but rather program oriented, which we believe is a sign of success." Ms. Aten worked for the State Department of Labor while earning a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Nebraska—in three years. At Wright State University in Dayton, OH, she received a Master of Space Medicine degree, opening doors for assignments with NASA. Laurie continued her education at the University of Nebraska Medical Center to become Dr. Laurie Aten, a board certified general practice physician. Dr. Aten worked as an emergency room doctor in Amarillo, Texas. She has also worked at the Led Water Recovery System Research and Development for the Space Station for NASA in Houston, Texas, and at the University of Alabama in Huntsville doing research and teaching.

She also has worked on the Redstone Project, researching the effects of space travel on astronauts, and traveled to the USSR several times to collaborate with the Soviets during development of the Space Station.

2003 Dr. John Batty (MC) Dr. John Batty considers himself to be a lifelong resident of McCook, Nebraska. He graduated from McCook Junior College in 1934, completed medical school at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 1938, and fulfilled his residency in internal medicine at the University of Chicago just in time to serve as a Navy doctor during World War II. When he was discharged, he attended the University of Minnesota for post-graduate work in specialized medicine. His plan to return and set up practice in McCook was strengthened when, during his coursework, he learned that rural areas of the country needed physicians with specialized training. So, in 1947 with a new bride, Dr. John Batty returned to his hometown and set up his practice.

Today, Dr. Batty is now retired and in retirement has enjoyed travel. As a lifelong sailor, he has sailed the Caribbean region and on other seas throughout the world. Land visits have included trips to Turkey and the region and his winter getaway on Saba, part of The Netherlands Antilles

Islands in the Caribbean Sea. He has enjoyed spending time at his cabin in Colorado.

Dr. Batty continues to be a strong supporter of McCook Junior College—now called McCook Community College, a Division of Mid-Plains Community College. He believes that the institution continues to “introduce post-secondary education to a lot of people who never would have had the chance to go to college.”

2004 Lana Webster (NP) Lana (Wilkins) Webster received her Associate of Arts Degree from the McDonald-Belton campus in 1982. She transferred to Kearney State College completing a Bachelor’s Degree in 1984. In the years after her graduation, Lana served as 1) Chief Financial Officer for the hospital in Broken Bow, Nebraska; 2) accountant for Great Plains Regional Medical Center in North Platte; and 3) Chief Financial Officer of Great Plains Regional Medical Center. She has been involved with the Mid-Nebraska Community Foundation and has served on the North Platte Community College Business Advisory Committee.

2005 Roger Patterson (MC) Roger Patterson completed an Associate’s Degree at McCook Community College in 1970. He went on to the University of Nebraska and graduated with degrees in civil and sanitary engineering. In 1999, Governor Mike Johanns appointed Patterson as Director of the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. Prior to this appointment, Patterson spent 25 years with the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Interior, and worked on natural resources issues in several western states. Patterson also has been involved in formulating landmark water legislation.

2006 Dr. Scott French (NP) Dr. Scott French attended McDonald-Belton campus and graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree in 1989. During his time at the College, he was on the basketball team and earned 1st Team All-Conference, Academic All-Conference, and All-Region IX. After completing his studies at McDonald-Belton, he transferred to the University of Nebraska Lincoln where he finished his Bachelor’s Degree in biology. Subsequently, he spent four years at the Indiana University School of Optometry earning a Doctorate in Optometry. Scott then returned to North Platte to begin his practice. His other community involvements have been Chairperson of the North Platte Chamber of Commerce, North Platte Ambassadors, Nebraskaland Days Board Member, President of Mid-Plains Community College Knights Booster Club, Sandhills Symphony and Ducks Unlimited. He also has been active

in the Nebraska Optometric Association. He served as President of the North Platte Community College Foundation.

2007 Dr. Mary Ellen Goodenberger (MC) Dr. Mary Ellen Goodenberger is Mid-Plains Community College's choice for their Alumna of the Year Award. Known for her teaching, writing and educational leadership, Dr. Goodenberger's reputation as a quality teacher, prolific writer, and educational leader in Nebraska are just a few of her attributes. Her initial post-secondary education was at McCook Junior College (MJC). There she met Marvin, who would later become the hub of their Goodenberger family wheel. While at MJC she was president of the women's organization, vice-president of the student council, and the 1943 valedictorian. Upon graduating from MJC, she transferred to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. In between her junior and senior years at UNL, Mary Ellen taught junior high social studies and helped pick corn with her dad on weekends.

Mary Ellen was awarded her last three degrees at UNL—all with distinction. While pursuing her doctorate, she taught Secondary English Methods at UNL and then became the state English consultant. She advanced to teaching high school English classes and later served as a librarian and high school principal. She followed these experiences as a K-12 curriculum coordinator for McCook Public Schools. Later, she combined teaching graduate courses for Kearney State College with a part-time county superintendent's position in Hitchcock County.

Academic recognition includes honorary memberships in Pi Lambda Theta, Phi Beta Kappa, and Delta Kappa Gamma. She and Commissioner of Education Dr. Anne Campbell were the first women invited to join the 250-member Nebraska Schoolmasters Club, and in 1977 she served as the group's president. Other memberships included NEA, NSEA, IRA, NCTE, NASCD with leadership roles in each. Two cherished honors were the 1980 UNO Distinguished Educator Award and the 1999 Delta Kappa Gamma State Achievement Award. Her curriculum vitae appears in *WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN WOMEN, 1999-2000* and *WHO'S WHO IN THE WORLD, 2000 (Millennium Edition)*.

Mary Ellen is involved with McCook's Buffalo Commons Storytelling Festival and is on the Board of Directors of the McCook College Foundation. In learning of Mary Ellen's award, Dr. Michael Owens—President of the McCook College Foundation—said, "Mary Ellen's steadfast loyalty to MCC has contributed greatly to the preservation and continuation of MCC's heritage, including: the outreach and recruitment of

students; ongoing development and expansion of academic and vocational programs; scholarships and loans for full and part-time students; support for experienced and involved faculty; innovative instruction, including distance and on-line learning; adequate and maintained facilities and equipment; and continuous sponsorship of MCC campus activities and programs.”

2008 Bill Pile (NP) Bill Pile graduated from North Platte Junior College with an Associate of Arts Degree in the spring of 1969. With this as his foundation, he went on to Chadron State College, and in 1971 he graduated with a degree in business education. Other advanced degrees earned by Bill Pile are a Master’s Degree in Business Education (Chadron State 1975) and an Ed. Specialist Degree in Administration (University of Nebraska at Kearney 1990). His career involved teaching and administrating at several locations: from 1971 to 1977, he taught business education at Sioux County High School in Harrison, Nebraska; from 1977 to 1993 he was a secondary principal at Mullen, Nebraska; in July of 1993 he moved to Gurley, Nebraska, where he served as superintendent until 2000; in July of 2000 he assumed the position of shared Superintendent for Leyton and Potter-Dix and remained there until his retirement in 2004. He met his wife while at North Platte Junior College and made many life-long friends. Bill Pile also served on the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education.

2009 Jon Burkey (MC) Jon Burkey completed his Associate of Arts Degree in 1969 at McCook Junior College. After McCook, he transferred to Kearney State College where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Education, a Master’s Degree in Speech Communications, and then later an Educational Specialist Degree in Administration. Jon spent 33 years in K-12 public education. He served twenty of those years as superintendent for the Grant Public Schools and McCook Public Schools. After retiring from the K-12 sector, he accepted the position of Director of Physical Resources at McCook Community College. During his tenure at MCC, Jon headed up restoration projects on every building at MCC.

2010 Lauri (Tomas) Blake Laurie Blake is Judge of the 336 District in Texas. She attended Mid-Plains Community College in North Platte on a Volleyball and Basketball scholarship from 1983-1985. She graduated from MPCC with an Associate of Arts degree, with honors, and as a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the college’s academic honorary society. Her athletic and academic records from MPCC provided a “full-ride” volleyball scholarship to attend the University of North Dakota where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Studies cum

laude in 1987. She graduated at the top of her class from Dallas Police Academy and became a police officer for the City of Dallas, Texas, until 1990 when she began law school at Southern Methodist University.

Judge Blake was first elected in November 2004, received the oath of office January 1, 2005, and is now serving her second term in elected office as 336th District Court Judge, covering Fannin and Grayson counties in Texas. She presides over a general jurisdiction court which hears controversies involving felony criminal cases, child protection cases, juvenile criminal cases, civil litigation, and family law matters. Her administrative duties include Juvenile Board Chairman, Member of the Fannin County Bail Bond Board, Chairman of the Fannin County Purchasing Board, and oversight of Fannin County Adult Probation and Fannin County Auditor. Additionally, Judge Blake was instrumental in creating a Pretrial Services Program in Fannin County, a Mental Health Court, and has presided over the Fannin County Drug Court for six years.

Prior to becoming Judge of the 336th District Court, Judge Blake served as First Assistant County Attorney to Joe Brown, Special Assistant United States Attorney, and was an Assistant Attorney General to John Cornyn. Additionally, she served as an Assistant Criminal District Attorney in Collin.

While at MPCC, Judge Blake was named Second Team All-American Volleyball in 1984 and All-Conference in basketball in 1985. She continues to hold the MPCC Women's basketball record for most points scored in a game (40 points). She was named Public Servant of the Year in 2009 by the Bonham Chamber of Commerce and Young Lawyer of the Year for Collin County Young Lawyers Association in 2001.

Judge Blake has been actively involved in a number of organizations and causes in her community and her state. She was a founding board member and officer of Children's Advocacy Center of Grayson County (2002-2004) and a Commissioner on the City of Allen Planning and Zoning Commission. (2000-2002) She has served as President of the Collin County Young Lawyers Association & the Grayson County Young Lawyers Association, and is presently President of the Parent Teacher Organization for the Dodd City Independent School District. Judge Blake served as a member of the State Bar of Texas Grievance Committee (2002-2005), a board member of the Metroplex MADD (serving 13 counties including Dallas, Collin, Grayson, Fannin, and Tarrant counties)(1998 - 2000) and was a Board Member for the Friends of Sherman Public Library (2003-2004). She is active in Kiwanis (2002-present), Rotary

(2009-present), Bonham Area Chamber of Commerce and the Blackland Prairie Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist (2009-present)- a group pledged to provide education, outreach and service dedicated toward the beneficial management of local natural resources. Judge Blake has spent time as a Sunday School teacher (2003-2007), a coach of the local Upward Basketball (youth basketball) program (2009 & 2010), and an Assistant Coach of the Denison Summer Track program (2010).

Conclusion

This book contains the history of the Mid-Plains Community College Area from the fall 1974 semester through the spring 2000 semester. It has been divided into three periods of time, according to perceived patterns of growth and development.

The Early Formative Period - fall semester 1974 - spring semester 1984

This period was initiated by creation of the community college areas in Nebraska. The story of that process appeared in Volume 1 of this two-book volume. The Early Formative Period was the time of a loose confederation comprised of the Voc-Tech, McDonald-Belton, McCook Community College, and the Area Board and Administration. The Board and Area Administration provided centralized oversight and business functions for the campus locations. Only a limited amount of course delivery to remote locations such as Broken Bow, Valentine, Imperial, and Ogallala occurred during this period.

The Building Blocks of an Area - fall semester 1984 - spring semester 1994

This second period was a time of the Area as a work in progress but now with a common goal in sight. The knitting together process was incremental and included actions and events such as common institutional accreditation by the North Central Association; synchronization of the college calendars, alignment of course numbers and content where possible; scheduling so that students could take coursework for their individual programs either at McCook or McDonald-Belton (nursing, criminal justice, etc.); and establishing Board governance with a sense of common goals.

Changes and Transitions - fall semester 1994 - spring semester 2000

As with many community college systems, MPCCA had experienced change from its beginnings in 1974, but the rate of change and magnitude of change accelerated during this final period. Areas of change were 1) substantial changes in administrative personnel and administrative structure; 2) changes in faculty because of retirements; 3) moderate changes in physical plant; 4) the impact of accountability and federal regulations; 5) electronic distance delivery of classes; and 6) the extensive development of a Management Information System which connected all locations to a common system.

Sources Consulted 1996-2000

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|--|-------------------------------------|
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| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 18 May 1996 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 17 May 1997 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 16 May 1998 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Spring Commencement | 15 May 1999 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 12 Aug 1995 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 10 Aug 1996 |
| Mid-Plains Community College Summer Commencement | 9 Aug 1997 |
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Notes on the Writers

EDITOR AND PRINCIPAL WRITERS



(Principal Writer) Kenneth Aten, and his wife Carol live in North Platte, Nebraska. They have five grown daughters Kathryn, Laurie, Leslie, Erin and Seanna and one son Colin, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, located throughout the mid-part of the United States. Ken and Carol have been very active in the Girl Scouts over the last forty years as leaders, board members, council officers, and council presidents. They also collect and restore antiques and contribute to the Nebraska Prairie Museum. They work on family genealogy and enjoy history, especially British and Scottish history. Ken enjoys building construction and has an extensive, well equipped shop where he has spent many hours during retirement building cabinets and furniture.

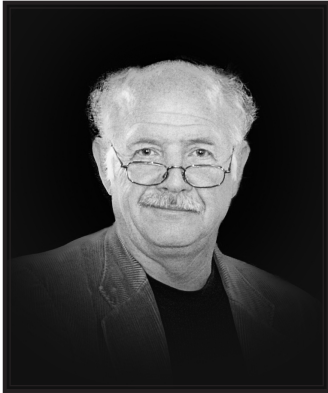
Academic Background

Ken has a Commercial Arts Diploma, a BA in Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with majors in Mathematics, Industrial Education and Social Studies. Ken also has an MS in Vocational Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with additional graduate classes in Vocational-Technical curriculum and administration from the University of Kentucky and Penn State University.

Work Experience

From 1950 to 1966, Ken worked as a carpenter and building contractor on a part-time basis while attending college or teaching. For the years 1954-1966 Ken taught mathematics, vocational shop, and was a high school principal in Newman Grove, Hershey, Central City, and Gibbon, Nebraska. 1966-1967 found Ken as Director of one and two year trade, technical and health occupation programs and three year engineering technology programs at the Engineering College of Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia. From 1967-1975 Ken was First Superintendent/Director/President of Area Technical School #2/Mid-Plains Vocational Technical College which offered one and two year occupational programs at North Platte, Nebraska. From 1975-1990, Ken was Campus

President of Mid-Plains Community College at North Platte and was responsible for Academic, Vocational and Continuing Education programs on both campuses. Then from 1990-1999, he served as Vice President/Dean in charge of Voc-Tech Campus on and off campus, full-time and part-time programs in trade and technical, and health occupations. He retired in 1999.



(Editor-Writer) Ford Craig lives in North Platte, Nebraska and is married to Doris, a full time legal assistant, and they have two grown daughters, Jody and Jill. Ford is a semi-retired community college faculty member and administrator. He teaches online graduate education for the University of Phoenix in both their Educational Leadership Program and the Ph.D. in Higher Education Program. He is a third year student in the Education for Lay Ministry Program at Cotner College in Lincoln, Nebraska, a program which coordinates with

Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and American Baptist churches. Ford also cooks during the week, cleans house, hunts pheasants, wild turkeys, and deer; takes a nap over the lunch hour most days, and does some writing. Ford has been in the business of education, at one level or another, for 40 years.

Academic Background

Ford holds a Bachelor's degree in English, Master's in English, Educational Specialist Degree in Administration, and an Educational Doctorate in Higher Education. The first three degrees come from institutions within the state of Nebraska; the last one was awarded in Ft. Lauderdale at Nova Southeastern University.

Work Experience

In the years between 1970 and 1978, Ford taught high school English and speech at several Nebraska locations. From 1978 through 2004, he was employed at Mid-Plains Community College (including 14 years at McCook Community College) as an English faculty member and then in the final ten years, as a Director of Institutional Research. Since retirement he has served as a part-time consultant, NCATE Evaluator, and Education Faculty Member at North Platte Community College. Since 2006, he has taught on-line and served (on-site) as a Year 1, 2, and 3 doctoral residency facilitator in two of the five doctoral programs at the University of Phoenix.



(Principal Writer) Jerda Thompson Garey

Jerda Thompson Garey is a fifth generation Red Willow County native, and a long standing supporter of McCook Community College. Following her early retirement in 2002, she returned to McCook and assisted her daughter Pamela with a family landscaping business, she has worked as a nutritionist for the WIC program several days a month, was the high school agriculture instructor for a semester to fill in for an unexpected vacancy, and has facilitated the Business of Administration of Technical Studies

Program for Bellevue University.

Upon her return to McCook, after ten years in Des Moines, Iowa, she was appointed to a vacancy on the McCook City Council and was later elected to the position, serving as Mayor of McCook. Rotary, church, Community Theater, and serving as Heritage Days chair have been some of her activities, along with membership on the City Planning Commission and The Economic Development Oversight Board. Golfing, fishing, gardening, helping 4-H club members and art activities fill her days. However, her main interest is staying abreast of her grandchildren in sports, 4-H, scouting, and school activities.

Grandson Brian Gaston continued the family tradition of attending McCook Community College, playing basketball, participated in Student Senate, and is the third generation Phi Theta Kappa member serving as the Regional president of the organization. Other grandsons include Cory, Kyle, and Greg Gaston and Mack Alspaugh. Her only granddaughter is Olivia Hughes who lives in Omaha, Nebraska.

Academic Background

Jerda attended rural District 8 K-8 school, graduated from McCook High School, McCook Junior College in 1959, and received her Bachelor of Science in 1961, and Master of Science degrees in 1972, in home economics and vocational education with a minor in social studies from the University of Nebraska. She earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Nova University in 1992, attending the cluster site in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She also attended a leadership institute at Duke University during the summer of 1994.

Work Experience

Jerda enjoyed her roles in ranching and living on the family farm following her short tenure as a home economics teacher at Crete, Nebraska, and rearing three children, Denise, Pamela, and Scott. All three are also graduates of McCook Community College.

When her children were preschoolers, she managed a preschool, then taught at Bartley High School in Bartley, Nebraska, for three years and began a twenty-year career at McCook Community College. She also served as the Vocational Arts Division Chair and Dean of Community Services. In 1992, she was named the Director of the Iowa State Vocational Education Advisory Council, and then completed her Iowa tenure as the State Director of Career and Technical Education before retiring to McCook.



(Principal Writer) William Hasemeyer and his wife Beth have lived in North Platte since 1967. They have three grown children: Bill (Jr.), Amy, and Pam Thompson, all of whom live in North Platte. The Hasemeyers have one granddaughter, Kaylee Thompson.

Bill is a member of Rotary and has been president of the North Platte Rotary Club and was chosen to serve as the District Governor of Rotary District 563 in 1980. He is a Mason and has served as President of the North Platte Shrine Club. He also is a very active member of the North Platte United Methodist Church and has chaired and served on almost all committees within the local church. He has served as chair of three United Methodist Conference Boards and also served as the Conference Lay Leader for eight years. For the past three years, he has kept busy traveling the state of Nebraska as the Director of Stewardship for the Conference United Methodist Church.

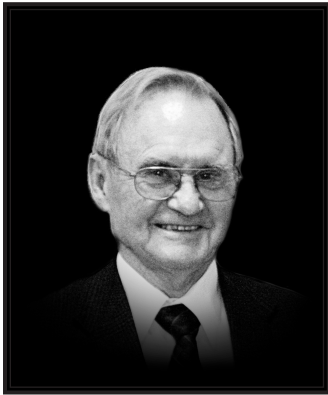
Academic Background

Bill was born and raised in Superior, Nebraska, where he graduated from high school. After high school graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and spent eighteen months on the island of Guam with the 103rd Seabees. After his discharge, he attended Kearney State Teachers College and completed his Bachelor's Degree in 1952. He completed a Master of Education Degree with a major in Educational Administration at the University of Wyoming in 1957. Bill returned to the University of Wyoming in 1964 and began working on a Doctor of Education degree (emphasis on higher education). He earned this degree, graduating in the summer of 1967 after a year of residency.

Work Experience

Dr. Hasemeyer retired in 1994, after having completed forty-two years in education. He began his career in January of 1952 as a history teacher and coach at Sutherland, Nebraska. In 1954, he was appointed Principal of Sutherland High School and remained in that capacity until moving in 1958 to become Superintendent of Lewellen Elementary and Lewellen Rural High School. In 1960, Bill became Superintendent of Schools for the Chappell Elementary and Deuel County High School in 1960.

After completing his doctoral studies, Bill and his family moved to North Platte where he was the Dean of Instruction for the North Platte Junior College. He became President of North Platte Junior College in 1971. In 1973 the Nebraska Legislature passed legislation forming the Nebraska Community College Areas, by combining the junior colleges with the vocational technical colleges. He was subsequently elected President of the Mid-Plains Technical Community College Area. Later, his title was changed to Chancellor of the Area.



(Associate Editor--Principal Writer) Ivan Koch lives in North Platte where the Great River Road to the West divides into the South Platte River which runs through Denver and the North Platte River which was the route of the Morman Trail and the Oregon Trail. Ivan is full-time retired from teaching and semi-retired from assignments which are given to him to keep him from lapsing into total indolence.

Academic Background

Ivan has a BA degree in English from Huron College (SD), 1954, an MA in English from the University of Wyoming, 1962, and advanced study in English at the University of Iowa, 1965-1967.

Work Experience

Ivan taught high school English in South Dakota, 1957-1960; in Alaska, 1960-1965; and part-time at Kenai Community College (Alaska), 1963-1965. In 1967, he became a member of the faculty of North Platte Junior College and remained on the staff until he retired in 1996.

